
T R A V E L S

I N T H E

T W O S I C I L I E S.

VOL. I.

A

THE A. V. B. J.

THE A. V. B. J.

THE A. V. B. J.



MEDITERRANEAN SEA

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SEA



T R A V E L S
I N T H E
T W O S I C I L I E S,

B Y
H E N R Y S W I N B U R N E, E s q.

IN

The Years 1777, 1778, 1779, and 1780.

T H E S E C O N D E D I T I O N.

I N F O U R V O L U M E S.

V O L. I.

Q U I D V E R U M A T Q U E D E C E N S C U R O —

H O R.

L O N D O N:
P R I N T E D B Y J. N I C H O L S,
F O R T. C A D E L L, A N D P. E L M S L Y,
I N T H E S T R A N D.

M, D C C. X C.



P R E F A C E

TO THE

S E C O N D E D I T I O N .

THIS account of my travels has now stood the test of criticism for some years, without impeachment of its veracity, or detection of any material mistake. Some positions have been controverted, as must always happen to performances

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b

of

of this nature, which being founded upon the observation of one individual, are liable to error and imperfection ; but it is a very sensible satisfaction to me, to find that after a minute and impartial revifal, I may think myself juftified in almoft every cafe in preferving my text unaltered. I have lately received a moft flattering testimonial from a perfon whom, I believe, the whole literary world will allow to be the beft judge exifting of the fubject of my work. On the 28th of Auguft, 1789, I was favoured with a letter from Sir William Hamilton, the Britifh Envoy-Extraordinary

dinary and Plenipotentiary at the Court of Naples, of which the following is an extract.

“ MY DEAR SIR,

“ OUR friend Padre Minafi, having told me that you wished me to send you any remarks that I may have made in my late tour of Puglia, I can assure you that it was not in my power to make any addition to those you have already given to the Publick; and in my letters to the Duke of Leeds and Sir Joseph Banks on my return to Naples, I referred them to your tour, if they

“ wished to be well-informed, for
“ that I could but repeat what you
“ had so accurately described. Your
“ book was of infinite use to me,
“ and it is the first time that travelling
“ with a book of travels in my hand,
“ I could neither add nor alter.”

My travels in the Two Sicilies have been translated into German by Mr. John Reinhold Forster, who was well qualified for the task, by his extensive learning, and by his thorough knowledge of our tongue.

Two Ladies have honoured the work with French translations: one is Mademoiselle de Kéralio, an esteemed

teemed writer of Biography. Madame de La Borde the amiable and accomplished wife of a *Fermier-General*, late Valet de chambre to Lewis XV. is the other. Her version is elegant, and printed in a beautiful style by Didot. Her husband, who has published a History of Musick of great merit, added two volumes of Notes to correct my faults, where he thought he had discovered any, and to explain more at large many points of history, chemistry, musick, &c. which are but slightly touched upon in the original.

I have adopted his corrections where I thought them just, and have added the little information that I have re-

X P R E F A C E, &c.

ceived concerning the Two Sicilies
since the publication of the first edi-
tion.

M. de la Borde has also given a
translation of my tour through Spain.

P R E-

P R E F A C E

TO THE

FIRST EDITION.

I CANNOT presume to print a Tour through the Two Sicilies, without offering an apology for its appearance. They have been so often described, that nothing but novelty of matter can excuse a fresh attempt. Our earliest education has made us acquainted with those classic regions; Poetry and History have rendered their topography familiar to us, and every school-boy can point out the ruins of Magna Græcia and Sicily. No country, La-

tium alone excepted, has so frequently employed the pen of the antiquary; and the observations made by travellers of a political turn may be supposed to have canvassed sufficiently the advantages as well as inconveniences of its present situation.

Under the discouragement arising from this anticipation, and the unpromising circumstance of passing over ground often and nicely examined, I yet do not despair of conveying such information on many heads, as may justify my boldness to the Reader, if, from a laudable desire of improvement, any will venture with me along so beaten a track. Part of my route is fresh land; and where I shall be under the irksome necessity of treading in the footsteps of preceding authors, I hope something will be struck out that has escaped their penetration. Far be it from me, wantonly, to impugn their authority, or detract from their merits; I only wish to insinuate, that, as two persons seldom consider an object in the same point of view,

and are still more rarely led by their perceptions to a combination of ideas exactly similar, it is but reasonable to hope that many openings may be left for the remarks of subsequent observers *. When allowances are made for difference of seasons, diversity of studies, occasional information, and many other accidental helps, we shall find an ample field still remain for our curiosity to range in: to say nothing of the revolutions, moral, physical, and political, effectuated by the hand of Time, which, however slowly and imperceptibly it may perform its operations, acts with irresistible force upon the state both of nature and of man. In the southern parts of Italy, where the elements ferment with more than ordinary violence, where changes in government have succeeded each other with un-

* Jamais deux hommes ne jugerent pareillement de la même chose. Il est impossible de voir deux opinions semblables exactement, non seulement de divers hommes, mais en même homme à diverses heures.

ESSAIS DE MONTAGNE.

common

common rapidity, the variations are more precipitate, the effects more striking.

In the course of seventeen centuries, the face of things has been so much altered, that the descriptions given by the ancient classics can seldom interfere with those of a modern writer. The later Latin and Italian authors, who have treated these subjects, are but little known or read in England, and most of them are rather discussers of detached points of history and geography, than general circumambulatory observers. They were too little acquainted with the laws and customs of foreign nations, to be able to form just criticisms upon those of their own country; and without some solid grounds for comparison, a writer will bewilder himself in his reasonings, and betray in each page that he is blinded and misled by ignorance and vanity.

How far my endeavours to instruct may be rendered superfluous by any recent accounts, is a point which the voice of the Publick has alone a right

right to determine. I wait the decision with respect, but without fear, conscious of having done my utmost to deserve its indulgence ; for to my own observations, and the information derived from books, I have added many interesting details communicated to me by learned and curious persons of the kingdom of Naples*.

Wherever my opinions deviate from those of my predecessors, I have studied to convey my dissent in such diffident terms, as may avoid all appearance of an attack on the literary reputation of those from whom I presume to differ in sentiment : but this delicacy does not prevail so far as to obstruct the liberty of judging for myself ; the maxim of *nullius jurare in verba*,

* I am particularly indebted to Monsignor Capecehatro, Archbishop of Taranto ; Counsellor Monsignor Galiani ; D. Filippo Brigante Patrizio di Gallipoli ; D. Pasquale Baffi ; D. Domenico Cirillo ; George Hart, Esquire ; Padre Antonio Minasi, of the order of St. Dominick ; D. Domenico Minasi, Arciprête of Molocchio ; and D. Giovanni Presta of Gallipoli.

constitutes the very spirit of my undertaking. In this freedom, and a scrupulous attention to truth, consisted the chief, perhaps the only merit of my Spanish Tour. The same principle shall direct my pen throughout the present work. By thus pursuing the dull plain track of truth, I shall, no doubt, run the risk of displeasing some of my Readers; but, I confess, I cannot condescend to keep their attention alive with fiction, be it ever so agreeable. According to my plan, the effusions of imagination are debarred all share in the composition: I deny myself the usual privilege of working up a trivial event into a sentimental or laughable adventure; the lively dialogue with persons who never honoured me with their confidence, is excluded; nor do I allow myself to dress up the trite story of an old book of jests, and pass it off for the scandalous chronicle of the day.

By refusing the assistance of such ready auxiliaries, I am aware that I weaken my force, and contract the circle of entertainment to a degree
many

many people will disapprove of; but I intreat them to confider, that I am writing the account of a real Tour, and not an imitation of Sterne's Sentimental Journey.

Some Criticks, I am told, have imputed as a blemish to my Letters on Spain, that I was rather an exact describer of still life, than an acute delineator of characters and manners. To this charge I can only answer, that having detected former writers in many errors, which they had fallen into through hastiness, misconception, or credulity, it was natural I should give into the opposite extreme, and, by advancing nothing but what I had vouchers for, lay myself open to an accusation of excessive caution, and consequently dulness.

I am apprehensive the same censure will be passed upon my present publication; but I choose to imitate the satisfactory dryness of an authentic Gazette, rather than, like a sprightly Morning-Paper, amuse and mislead, by interweaving a thousand pleasing impostures with half a dozen real facts.

The

The longer any man of candour resides in a foreign country, the greater difficulty he finds in giving a character of its inhabitants. He perceives so many nice varieties, so many exceptions to general rules, as almost destroy his hopes of drawing up one comprehensive description of them : he every day becomes more and more conscious of the presumption of those who run and read ; and, what is worse, write. Unfortunately, it is from such rapid observations that most people are to derive their knowledge of foreign nations ; and I leave it to the impartial to decide upon the probability of any resemblance existing in such portraits. I have read the travels of one of these dashing writers *, who allots a whole chapter, with a title in capitals, to the character and manners of the Neapolitans, which points he handles with as much decisiveness, as if he had resided forty years at Naples in quality of spy. Upon com-

* Voyage de France, d'Espagne, de Portugal, et d'Italie, par Mr. S—— (Silhouette) in 1730.

paring the dates of his Journal, it appears, that his whole stay in that city was exactly five days and a half, part of which was spent upon Mount Vesuvius, and among the curiosities of Puzzuoli.

My style has been by some thought deficient in elegance and refinement; but until the positive ideas we are to attach to these words be ascertained and generally agreed upon, I shall not attempt to emerge out of my humble sphere. They have of late been much used, perhaps misapplied; and many persons of taste and knowledge in our language are of opinion, that the terms elegant and refined have been frequently employed in speaking of writings, where the epithets, fustian and affected, would have been more applicable. They pretend, that many of our modern compositions verge to that simpering style known in France by the name of *precieux*, which breaks out in an unnecessary adoption of foreign and learned phrases, a fondness for sounding words to express common ideas,

and a continual round of metaphorical and bombastical imagery. I do not know how far these criticks may have reason on their side, but as I feel no ambition to try any daring flights, I shall rest contented, if I am allowed in this work the same merits that were granted me in my Spanish Tour, viz. truth, perspicuity, and common sense.

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GENERAL

WILLIAM DRUM, ELIMITE
1037 1037

Walter de Burgh in 1213

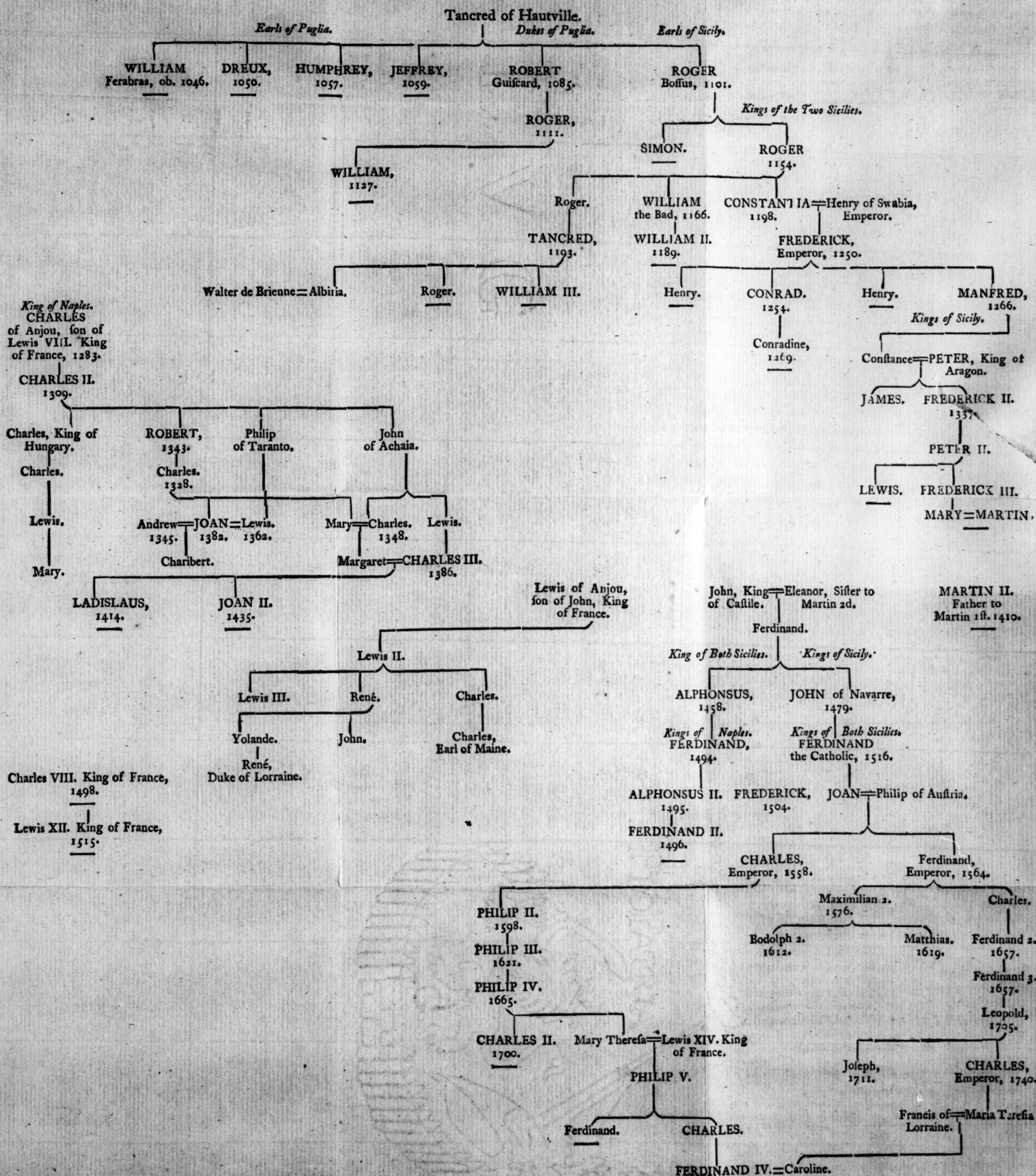
King of France, 1830
Louis VIII King
of France, 1235
1. August, 1830
CHARLES
King of Naples

CHARLES II.

Philip
of Lewis

Charles King of
- Kings -
Charles.

A GENEALOGICAL TABLE of the SOVEREIGNS of the TWO SICILIES.



TABLES OF COINS, &c.

GOLD COINS.

1. Piece of six ducats.
2. Piece of four ducats.
3. Piece of three ducats, or, On-
cia, a Sicilian coin.
4. Piece of two ducats.

BRASS COINS.

The piece of 1 grano and 6 calli *,
called the Publica †.

— 1 —	0
— 0 —	9
— 0 —	6 The
Torneſe ‡.	
— 0 —	4
— 0 —	3

SILVER COINS.

Piece of 13 carlini & 2 grana.

— 12 —	0	
— 10 —	0	{ The ducat, very ſcarce.
— 6 —	6	
— 6 —	0	Very common.
— 5 —	0	{ The patacca, ſcarce.
— 4 —	0	Common.
— 3 —	0	Common.
— 2 —	6	
— 2 —	4	
— 2 —	0	{ The Neapo- litan tari.
— 1 —	3	
— 1 —	2	
— 1 —	0	{ The carlino of Naples and tari of Sicily.
— 0 —	5	
— 15 —	0	New.

* Calli ought to be written Cavalli, from the horſes ſtamped on the coin of Ferdinand the Firſt, who, by a wretched quibble, put on it the legend, *Æquitas regni*.

† Publica is ſo named from its motto, *Publica commoditas*.

‡ A word taken from the French *Tournois*.

1 Onchia

1 Oncia	contains	3 ducats.	Accounts are kept at Naples in ducats, carlini, and grana; but regular merchants keep theirs in two columns only, viz. ducats and grana.
1 Ducat		10 carlini.	
1 Carlino		10 grana.	
1 Grano		12 cali.	

The Neapolitan ducat, upon the supposed par with England, is worth forty-five pence, or 3*l*. 9*d*. sterling, and the carlina 4½*d*. but this is no fixed rule, as exchange is continually varying, and occasionally makes a difference of ten or fifteen per cent. higher or lower, and sometimes even more.

W E I G H T S.

Eng. Gr. dec.

1 Carato	makes	0,17	
4 Carati	—	1 Acino.	
20 Acini	—	1 Trapezo.	
3 Trapezi	—	1 Drama.	
10 Drame	—	1 Oncia.	
12 Oncie	—	1 Libra.	
33½ Oncie	—	1 Rotolo, equal to 31,48 oz. Avoirdup.	
40 Rotoli	—	1 Tumulo.	
100 Rotoli	—	1 Cantaro, equal to 1 cwt. 3 qu.	

LINEAL MEASURE.

1 Oncia Eng. In. dec.

12 Oncie — 1 Palmo=10,31.

7½ Palmi — 1 Passio.

Engl. feet. dec.

8 Palmi — 1 Canna=6,87*.

* The Neapolitan mile contains 7000 Palmi, equal to 1091 French toises, or 2182 English yards.

LAND

LAND MEASURE.

Eng. feet. dec.
 1 Square passo = 39,69.
 900 Passi = 35721.
 Make one Moggia or Acre.
 5 Moggie = 4 Engl. Acres.

LAND-MEASURE in PUGLIA.

1 Caro	} contains {	20 versure
1 Versura		6 catene
1 Catena		10 passi
1 Passo		7 palmi.

DRY-MEASURE.

Wheat is measured by the tomolo, of which two are equal to three English bushels.

WINE-MEASURE.

Wine is measured by the barrel, containing 66 caraffi, equal to 9½ English gallons.—In the city of Naples, the barrel contains only 60 caraffi.—1 Engl. hoghead is equal to 2 Neapolitan falmi.

OIL-MEASURE.

1 Salma	} contains {	16 stars
1 Star		10½ rotoli
1 Rotolo		33⅓ ounces, equal to 2 lb. English.

A falma contains about 40 English gallons.

ROADS

ROADS of the Kingdom of NAPLES.

Post-Road from Rome to Naples.		Ponte di Bovino	1½	
From Rome to Terracina		Lucera	2	
	Fondi	1½	Foggia	2
	Itri	1	Manfredonia	3
	Mola	1		
	Garigliano	1	Post-Road from Naples to Lecce.	
	S. Agata	1	From Naples to Ponte Bovino	
		10½	Ordona	1½
Francolisi		1	Cerignuola	1½
Capua		1	S. Cassano	1
Aversa		1	Barletta	1
Naples. Post royal.			Bisceglia	1
			Giovenazzo	1
Post-Road from Naples to Caserta.			Bari	1½
From Naplesto Caivano, post royal.			Mola	0½
Caserta		1	Monopoli	1½
			Fafano	1
From Caserta to S. Luci		0½	Ofuni	1½
			S. Vito	1
From Caserta to the Aqueduct		1	Mefagna	1½
			Cellino	1½
From Caserta to Capua		0½	Lecce	1½
From Naples to Puzzuoli, post royal.			Post-Road from Naplesto Perfano.	
			From Naples to La Nunziata, p.r.	
Post-Road from Naples to Manfredonia.			Nocera	1
			Salerno	1
From Naplesto Marigliano, p.r. & ½			Vicenza	1
	Cardinale	1½	Evoli	1
	Avellino	1½	Perfano	1
	Dentecane	1½		
	Grottaminarda	1	From Naples to Pesto.	
	Ariano	1	To Evoli	5½
			Pesto	1½
Savignano		1	Price.	

Price. 11 Carlini each pair of horses, and $5\frac{1}{2}$ more at the post royal. 3 Carlini are the due of the postillion for each pair of horses.

Post-Road from Naples to Reggio.

To Evoli	$5\frac{1}{2}$
La Duchessa	1
Auletta	1
Sala	1
Cafalnuovo	1
Lagonegro	1
Lauria	1
Castelluccio	1
La Rotonda	1
Castrovillari	1

To Efero	1
Celfo	1
Pantoni	1
Cofenza	1
Rogliano	1
Seigliano	1
S. Biale	1 *
Fondaco del Fico	1
Monteleone	1
S. Petro de Melito	1
Drofi	1
Seminare	1
Paffo di Solani	1
Fiumari di Muro	1
Catona	1 †
Reggio	1

ROUTES of CALESSI, Muletiers and Vetturini.

From Naples to Reggio, by Puglia.

1. Day, dinner at Cardinale, supper at Avellino.
2. Mirabella—Ariano.
3. Ponte di Bovino—Ortona.
4. Canosa—San Cosimo.
5. Fontana d'Ogna—Gravina.
6. Matera.
7. Vallecupa—Torredi Mare.
8. Policoro—Rocca Imperiale.
9. Castel Roseto—Trebisaccia.
10. Madonna dell' Arma—Bualara di Cassano.
11. Torre de Paolini—Mirti.
12. Cariati—Capo d'Alice.
13. Fasano—Cotrone.

14. Cutri—Megliacane.
15. Taverna Nova—Casine di Catanzaro. Carriages can go no farther; and litters are used from hence.
16. Borgia—Fondaco del Fico.
17. Monteleone—Seminara.
18. Scilla.
19. Reggio.

From Naples to Reggio, by Salerno.

1. Nocera—Salerno.
2. Vicenza—Evoli.
3. La Duchessa—Polla.
4. Sala—S. Lorenzo.
5. Cafalnuovo—Lagonero.

* Here is a road of communication to Catanzaro.—Two posts.

† Here one embarks for Messina.

6. Lauria

(xxxiv)

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 6. Laria—Castelleccio. | 12. Cutri—Megliacane. |
| 7. La Rotonda—Murano. | 13. Catanzaro. |
| 8. Oria—Corigliano. | 14. Borgia—Aqua che Favella. |
| 9. Rossano—Mirti. | 15. Pizzo—Monteleone. |
| 10. Cariati—Capo d'Alice. | 16. Seminara. |
| 11. Fossaro—Cotrone. | 17. Reggio. |

From Naples to Aquila in Abruzzo.

To Clavi	23 miles	Castel del Sangro	21	Novelli	14
Triverno	23	Sulmona	20	Aquila	14

A

GEOGRAPHICAL VIEW OF THE KINGDOM OF NAPLES.

SITUATION AND EXTENT.

THIS Kingdom occupies the most southern extremity of Italy, and extends from latitude $42^{\circ} 52'$ to latitude $37^{\circ} 50'$; and from longitude 14° to longitude 19° East from London. Its greatest length 350 Italian miles; breadth 180; circumference 1000. Geographers calculate that its surface contains 14,508,973

Moggie

xxxvi GEOGRAPHICAL VIEW

Moggie, each of which is a square of 30 paces on each side; every pace of seven palms and one-fifth :—but these are rough calculations.

MOUNTAINS.

The Apennine runs through it from North to South; a branch of the Apennine runs West, to form the promontory of Sorrento. Monte Gargano is a promontory on the Adriatic Sea; Monte Barbaro, Miseno, and Vesuvius, are insulated mountains.

RIVERS.

Garigliano and Voltorno, navigable; Tronto, Aterno, Sangro, Fortore, Ofanto, Basiento, Agri, Crati, Metramo, Amato, Silari, and Sarno.

LAKES.

Celano, Agnano, Averno, Licola, Fusaro, Patria, Lefina, Fondi.

ISLANDS.

I S L A N D S.

In the Mediterranean, Ponza, Ventotiene, Ischia, Procida, Nisida, Capri, Galli, Licosa, Dino.

In the Ionian, the island of Calypso, Monte Sardo, S. Andrea, and S. Pelagia.

In the Adriatic, Tremiti and Pelagosa.

N U M B E R O F I N H A B I T A N T S.

In 1669, it amounted to 2,500,000; in 1765, to 3,953,098; in 1773, to 4,249,430; and in 1779, to 4,651,293, exclusive of the army and naval establishment.

P R O V I N C E S.

Twelve; viz. Terra di Lavoro, Principato citra, Principato ultra, Basilicata, Capitanata, County of Molise, Terra di Bari, Terra di Otranto, Calabria citra, Calabria ultra, Abruzzo citra, and Abruzzo ultra. These contain 2,067 universita,

under the denomination of cities, towns, and villages.

TRIBUNALS.

At Naples,—Camera di Santa Chiara, S. R. C. di Santa Chiara, Sommaria, Vicaria, Del Almirante, Consolato, Della Lana, Della Seta, Giunta de' Poveri, Degli Allodiali, Del Lotto, Di Sicilia, Di Stato, Del Montiero, Proto Medicato, Azienda, Dé Prefidij, Udiienza dell Esercito, De Castelli, Di Marina, Zecca dé Pesi, &c.

Terra di Lavoro is governed by Sopra Intendenti, royal governors of towns, and judges.

The other provinces have presidents, viz. Principato citra, Principato ultra, Basilicata, Bari, Otranto, Abruzzo citra, Calabria citra, and Calabria ultra, have one each; Abruzzo ultra has two; and Capitanata and Molise one between them.

At Foggia is the tribunal Della Dogana.

ECCLESIASTICAL GOVERNMENT.

Twenty-one archbishopricks, and one hundred and ten bishopricks : of which, eight archbishopricks, and twenty bishopricks, are in the King's gift ; the rest in the Pope's.

A R M S.

Azure, semée of fleur de luces, Or ; with a label of five points, Gules.

ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

Order of St. Januarius, bishop and martyr,—instituted in 1738 by Charles, afterwards King of Spain : the number of Knights not positively fixed. They wear a red ribbon, and a star on the left breast, with the image of the Saint in the centre ; and the motto, *In Sanguine Fædus*. The King confers the Cross of the Constantinian Order, as Duke of Parma.

TITLES OF THE KING.

Ferdinand the Fourth, by the Grace of God,
King of Both Sicilies, Jerusalem, and Infant of
Spain; Duke of Parma, Placentia, Castro,
&c.; and hereditary Great Prince of Tuscany,
&c. &c.

1. TERRA DI LAVORO;

anciently, Campania Felix.

N A M E.

Derived from its fertility, or from the ancient
Campi Leborini.

A R M S.

Azure, over 2 cornucopias; a crown, or.

EXTENT.

EXTENT.

1,530,964 Moggie.

INHABITANTS.

In 1779, 1,210,989.

RIVERS.

Garigliano, Voltorno, Saone, Clani, Sebeto.

LAKES.

Agnano, Averno, Fufaro, Licola, Patria,
Fondi.

ISLANDS.

Ifchia, Procida, Ponza, Ventotiene, S. Maria,
Botte, Nifida.

SEAPORTS.

Naples, Baia, Gaeta.

MOUNTAINS.

Vesuvius, Epomeo, Camaldoli, Barbara, Nuovo, Tifata, Mattese, St. Leo, St. Salvatore, Cecubo, Auroneo, Ofellio, Maffico, Cassino, Attico, Nivoso, Cairo, Cefino, Seli, Ortasio, and Azo.

PRINCIPAL PLACES.

1. Naples capital, archbishoprick.
2. Capua fortrefs; archbishoprick.
3. Bishopricks. Sora; Aquino, reduced to a hamlet, the bishop resides at the united see of Pontecorvo; Fondi; Alife, the bishop lives at Piedimonte; Venafro; Sessa; Calvi; Telese, the bishop resides at Cerreto; Teano; Caiazzo; Gaeta, a fortrefs; Caserta, the bishop lives at Caserta Nova, where the King has a palace; Aversa; Acerra; Nola; Pozzuoli; Ischia; Carinola.
4. Monte Casino, the head convent of the Order of St. Benedict.
5. Portici,

5. Portici, St. Leuci, Cacciabella; royal residences.

6. Pompeii, Herculaneum, Cuma, Baiæ, Capua, Formiæ, Minturnæ, Sinuessa; ruined cities.

7. Vesuvius, Solfatara; mountains emitting smoke or flame.

2. PRINCIPATO CITRA; or,

*Principality of Salerno, anciently inhabited by the
Picentini and Lucani.*

NAME.

In the year 851, the possessions of the Lombards were divided into two parts; one of which obeyed the Prince of Salerno; the other was subject to that of Benevento.

A R M S.

Party per fefs, argent and fable; a failor's compafs with 8 wings, argent; in chief, a mullet, or.

E X T E N T.

1,175,994 Moggie.

I N H A B I T A N T S.

447,465.

R I V E R S.

Sarno, Sele, Battipaglia, Alento, Bufento, Calore, Bianco, Negro, St. Gregorio.

I S L A N D S.

Capri, li Galli, Piana di Lacofa.

S E A P O R T S.

Castelamare, Salerno.

M O U N -

MOUNTAINS.

Toro, Canutario, Majano, Collo, Aquarro, Lattario, Sarno, St. Donato, Calpazzo, Lucano, Nero, Alburno, Civita, Calimarco, Cantena, Stella, Novi, Cavallara, Antillia, Bulgaria, Maddalena, Balzater, St. Onofrio, Aquila, Motulo, Cervati, Navarra, Petrarò, Centaurino, Lagorosso.

PRINCIPAL PLACES.

1. Salerno presidency, archbishoprick.
2. Amalfi, archbishoprick.
3. Sorrento, archbishoprick.
4. Bishopricks :—Nocera, Sarno, Vico, Massa, Capri, Cava, Lettere, Castelamare, Acerno, Campagna cum Satriano, Capaccio, Policastro, Scala cum Ravello, Minori, Marfico Novo.
5. Pæstum, Stabia, Velia ; ruined cities.
6. Persano, Castelamare ; royal seats.

3. PRINCIPATO ULTRA; or,
Principality of Benevento.—Samnites, Hirpini.

A R M S.

Party pes fefs, gules and argent ; on the 1st,
 a crown.

E X T E N T.

664,280 Moggie.

I N H A B I T A N T S.

250,136.

R I V E R S.

Calore, Sabato, Tamoro.

M O U N T A I N S.

Virgine, Taburno, Sabletta, Agnone, Termolo,
 Guleto, Paflagone, Irpino, Rumulo, Jarminio,
 Divoto, Voltore.

4

L A K E.

LAKE.

Anfanto.

PRINCIPAL PLACES.

1. Benevento, archbishoprick ; belongs to the Pope.
2. Conza, archbishoprick.
3. Bishopricks :—St. Agata de' Goti ; St. Angelo de' Lombardi, cum Bifaccia ; Ariano ; Trevico, cum Vico della Baronia ; Avellino, cum Frigento ; Nusco ; Montemarano ; Lacedogna ; Monteverde, united to Canne and Nazareth.
4. Montevergine, chief convent of the Verginian order.
5. Montefusco, presidency.
6. Eculanum, a ruined city.

4. BASILICATA.

Lucania.

NAME.

From the Greek Emperor Basil II.

ARMS.

Barry wavy, of fix, argent and azure; in chief, an eagle's head crowned, gules.

EXTENT.

1,605,047 Moggie.

INHABITANTS.

325,682.

RIVERS.

Bradano, Bafiento, Salandrella, Acri, Sinno.

LAKES.

LAKES.

Lagonegro, Olmo.

MOUNTAINS.

Casale, Croce, Funicchio, Pomazzo, Muro, Acuto, Rivezzone, Fondone, Maruggio, St. Martino, Carrafo, Vespe, Alpi, Raparo, Melaggioto, Sirino, St. Brancato, Noce Trecchina.

PRINCIPAL PLACES.

1. Acerenza, archbishoprick, united to Matera, where the presidency is held.
2. Bishopricks :—Melfi cum Rapolla, Montepeloso, Tricarico, Potenza, Anglona cum Turfi, Venosa, Muro.
3. Metopontum, Heraclea ; ruined cities.

GEOGRAPHICAL VIEW

5. CAPITANATA.

Apulia, Daunia, Frentani.

N A M E.

A corruption of Catapanata (the district under the Catapan, or Greek viceroy).

A R M S.

Azure, on a mount, St. Michael, or.

E X T E N T.

1,141,622 Moggie.

I N H A B I T A N T S.

491,255.

R I V E R S.

Biferno, Fortore, Candelaro, Carapelle, Ofanto,
Cervaro.

L A K E S.

OF NAPLES.

11

LAKES.

Lefina, Varano, Bataglia, St. Giovanni, Salpi.

ISLANDS.

St. Domino, St. Nicola, Caprara, Cretaccio,
Mergoli.

SEAPORTS.

Manfredonia, Viesti.

MOUNTAINS.

Granato, Secco, Corvino, Pagano, Auro,
Chilone, Bucculo, Liburno, Origine, Calvo,
Sagro, Saracino, Barone, Condizzo.

PRINCIPAL PLACES.

1. Manfredonia, archbishoprick.
2. Bishopricks :—Lucera, presidency : Viesti,
San Severo, Larino, Troja, Termoli, Bovino,
Vulturara cum Monte Corvino, Ascoli.
3. Foggia,

3. Foggia, tribunal for duties on cattle.
4. Bosco di Bovino, royal seat.
5. Monte St. Angelo di Gargano, a pilgrimage.
6. Sipontum, Arpi, Salapia, Herdonia; ruined cities.

6. COUNTY OF MOLISE.

Samnium and Pentri.

NAME.

From a castle.

ARMS.

Gules within a garland of ears of corn, or; a bearded comet, argent.

EXTENT.

484,898 Moggie.

IN-

INHABITANTS.

Included in the enumeration of Capitanata.

RIVERS.

Biferno, Fortore, Trigno.

MOUNTAINS.

Sangra, Janipro, Vallone, Rotaro, Biferno, Caprara, Bisano, Albano.

PRINCIPAL PLACES.

1. Bishopricks :—Bojano (the prelate resides at Campobasso); Guardia, Alfiera, Ifernina, Trivento.

2. Campobasso, chief place of the county; Molise, a burgh, from whence the county takes its name.

7. TERRA DI BARI.

Apulia, Peucetia, and Pædiculi.

NAME.

From the principal city.

ARMS.

Party per saltire, Azure and Argent; over all,
a crozier, Or.

EXTENT.

869,097 Moggie.

INHABITANTS.

281,048.

RIVERS.

Ofanto, Cane.

SEA-

SEAPORTS.

Barletta, Trani, Bari, Molfetta.

MOUNTAINS.

Sanazzo, Femina Morta, Lupulo, Franco,
St. Agostino.

PRINCIPAL PLACES.

1. Bari, archbishoprick.
2. Trani, archbishoprick and presidency.
3. Barletta, residence of the archbishop of Nazareth.
4. Bishopricks :—Andria, Bisceglia, Ruvo, Bitonto, Monopoli, Gravina, Giovenazzo cum Terlizzi, Bitetto, Conversano, Molfetta, Polignano (the bishop's residence is at Mola), Minervino.
5. Egnatia and Canne, ruined cities.

8. TERRA DI OTRANTO.

Messapia or Japigia, Calabria, Salentini.

A R M S.

Paly of 8, Gules and Or; over all a dolphin,
with a crescent in his mouth, proper.

E X T E N T.

1,377,102 Moggie.

I N H A B I T A N T S.

290,915.

R I V E R S.

Bradano, Patimisco, Lieto, Chiatano, Tara,
Galefo, Hidro.

L A K E.

Limina,

S E A-

SEAPORTS.

Brindisi, Otranto, Taranto.

MOUNTAINS.

Hidro, Scotano.

ISLANDS.

St. Andrea, St. Pelagia, Isola de Brindisi.

PRINCIPAL PLACES.

1. Taranto, archbishoprick.
2. Brindisi, archbishoprick.
3. Otranto, archbishoprick.
4. Bishopricks :—Lecce, presidency ; Castellaneta, Gallipoli, Motula, Ugento, Castro, Nardo, Oria, Ostuni, Aleffano.
5. Manduriæ, Dupiæ, Rudii, Salentum ; ruined cities.

9. CALABRIA CITRA.

Lucania and Brutium.

NAME.

Given by the Greek Emperors, to perpetuate the memory of Ancient Calabria, which they had lost.

ARMS.

Argent, a cross potent, Sable.

EXTENT.

1,605,463 Moggie.

INHABITANTS.

315,330.

RIVERS.

R I V E R S.

Calandro, Cerfhiara, Raccanello, Cofcile, Crati, Efaro, Moccono, Lucino, Celano, Celenito, Trionto, Fimarello, Aquanile, Fiomenica, Lipuda, Nieto, Savuto, Cleta, Solio, Bato, Lao.

M O U N T A I N S.

Mauro, Provizia, Pollino, Cilisterno, Malafpina, Saffo, Caritore, Muta, Ifauro, Coruzzo, Calaferna, Gigante, Macalla, Bovi, Scaccia • Diavolo, Fumiero, Negro, del Calabrefe, Patiatì, Caperofa, Januario, Goliero, Porcina, Ilia.

P R I N C I P A L P L A C E S.

1. Cofenza, archbifhoprick and prefidency.
2. Roffano, archbifhoprick.
3. Bifhopricks :—Cariati cum Gerenza, Martorano, St. Marco, Bifignano, Umbriatico, Strongoli, Caffano.
4. Sibaris, Pandofia, Petilia ; ruined cities.

10. CALABRIA ULTRA.

Brutium.

A R M S.

Gironnee of 4; 1 and 4 Aragon; 2 and 3
Argent; a cross potent, Sable.

E X T E N T.

1,901,878 Moggie.

I N H A B I T A N T S.

460,392.

R I V E R S.

Nièto, Esaro, Pilaca, Dragone, Tacina, Naf-
caro, Acone, Litrello, Alli, Corace, Allefi,
Beltrana, Ancinale, Alaca, Calipari, Bruda,
Pacanito, Affa, Stilaro, Alaro, Calamizzi, Lo-
cano, Novito, Merico, Ciamuti, Bova, Alice,
Gallico,

Gallico, Allecio, Sfalaffa, Metauro, Metramo, Mefima, Angitola, Amato.

SEAPORTS.

Cotrone, Reggio.

MOUNTAINS.

Aspro, Zefirio, Pittaro, Sagittario, Sacro, Esope, Caulone, Sagra, Jeio, Clibano, la Sibilla, Corvaro, Nerbo, Ordica, Pettinella.

PRINCIPAL PLACES.

1. Reggio, archbishoprick.
2. Santa Severina, archbishoprick.
3. Bishopricks :—Catanzara cum Taverna, presidency ; Belcastro, Ifola, Bova, Oppido, Nicotera, Tropea, Gerace, Squillacce cum Stilo, Mileto, Cotrone, Nicastro.
4. Locri, Hippona, Terina, Caulon, Croton ; ruined cities.

II. ABRUZZO

II. ABRUZZO CITRA.

Samnium, Peligni, Marrucini, Frentani, Caraceni.

N A M E.

From the city of Aprutium, the Prætutii,
or the asperity of the country.

A R M S.

Or, a boar's head with a yoke, Gules.

E X T E N T.

917,052 Moggie.

I N H A B I T A N T S.

232,256.

S E A P O R T S.

Ortona.

R I V E R S.

RIVERS.

Pescara, Lenta, Foro, Moro, Feltrino, Sangro,
Sente, Afinella, Trigno, Merola.

MOUNTAINS.

St. Nicolà, Majella, Cavallo, Erminio, Prata,
Morone, Argatone, Longo, Schienaforte, Marfo,
Caraccio, Capraro, Sorbo, Scoffoso, Pallana,
Policorno.

PRINCIPAL PLACES.

1. Chieti, archbishoprick and presidency.
2. Lanciano, archbishoprick.
3. Bishopricks :—Sulmona cum Valve, Ortona cum Campli.
4. Corfinium, ruined city.

12. ABRUZZO ULTRA.

Marfi, Vestini, Pratutii.

A R M S.

Azure, an eagle displayed, Or, on 3 hills, Vert.

E X T E N T.

1,311,476 Moggie.

I N H A B I T A N T S.

345,825.

R I V E R S.

Tronto, Librata, Salinello, Trontino, Vomanana, Piomba, Salino, Pescara, Salto, Velino.

L A K E.

Celano.

MOUN-

MOUNTAINS.

Velino, Elvino, Fiore, Corno, Pietra Fiorita, Pietra Solida, Candido, Nitella, Pietra Gentile, Calvo, Carosa, Peschiolo, Saffuolo, Gurguri, Rosetta, Moscie, Sono, Luco, Corbaro, Duchessa, Accerella, Carbonara, Grottole, Turchio, Lampallo.

PRINCIPAL PLACES.

1. Bishopricks:—Aquila, presidency; Teramo, presidency; Pescara, residence of the bishop of the Marfi; Civita Ducale; Atri cum Penne.

2. Amiterno, Aveia; ruined cities.

DIREC-

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CHICAGO

SHORT SKETCH
OF THE
HISTORY
OF THE
KINGDOM OF NAPLES.

I.

G R E E K S.

THIS Country has been celebrated from the earliest dawn of Grecian literature, and illustrated by many achievements of gods and heroes: some authors even lay the scene of the Giants War in Campania, and prove their assertion by the fable of the Titans, who were bu-

Vol. I.

B

ried

ried under the neighbouring islands. As it is not likely that these stories should have originated entirely in the imagination of the poets, we may reasonably suppose some historical event afforded a canvas for them to work upon; and the most natural conjecture is, that the first adventurers, on their landing in Italy, met with a vigorous opposition from men of an extraordinary stature. From their taking refuge in sulphureous vallies and gloomy caverns, among burning mountains, the discoverers called them sons of the earth, and their abodes the mouths of hell.

All accounts of these primordial inhabitants are extremely imperfect; most probably the invaders drove them into the inland mountainous regions, where they became the parents of the Lucanians and other warlike nations.

Divers tribes of Greeks planted colonies along the shores of the Adriatic and Mediterranean seas. Diomed is said to have founded Arpi, and Idomeneus Salentum, immediately after the



the Trojan war; and so many Greek settlements were made in the southern part of Italy, that it acquired the name of Magna Græcia.

These commonwealths experienced a variety of fortunes; sometimes they gave law to the people of the midland countries, at others were obliged to receive it from them. Alexander, king of the Molossians, passed over into Italy to support the cause of his countrymen; but, after a few brilliant campaigns, lost his life in a battle against the Lucanians. Not long after, the Bruttians, a people sprung from a set of outlaws, carried all before them, and gave their name to the province which is now called Farther Calabria. At length Rome turned her ambitious eye towards this extremity of the peninsula: in vain did the Bruttians resist her arms with obstinate valour; in vain did Pyrrhus from Epirus, and Hannibal from Carthage, check her progress at different periods; in the course of a few years, the fortunes of Rome prevailed over all opposition, and these countries

submitted to the yoke of bondage with the rest of Italy.

II.

R O M A N S.

As the Romans divided this district according to the various nations that composed it, the forms of government were as different as its inhabitants; some cities were made colonies, others ruled by magistrates sent from Rome, and a few indulged with their old republican constitution, subject to a tributary acknowledgment; but, sooner or later, the mode of deputing governors from the Capital was universally adopted.

Hadrian made a great change in the distribution; and, having divided Italy into provinces, formed four of them out of the present kingdom of Naples.

Some alterations took place under Constantine, but none very material.

After

After enjoying longer and greater tranquillity than any other department of the Roman empire, this country was over-run by the Visigoths*, in the reign of Honorius. Upon the retreat of the invaders, who made no settlement here, these provinces were found to have suffered so excessively from the devastation, that it became necessary to remit their usual tribute. They had scarce recovered their losses, when Genferic the Vandal laid them waste, and destroyed many of their most flourishing cities.

III.

G O T H S.

The final dissolution of the Roman empire now drew near; and the convulsions that shook it, in the last moments of its existence in the West, were too violent not to be severely felt in

* After Christ 400.

parts so near the centre. They accordingly shared largely in the common calamity.

The long prosperous reign of Theodoric, the Ostrogoth, allowed some respite to the misery, and was a period of happiness in the annals of Italy. After many vicissitudes of fortune, the Gothic sceptre was broken at the battle of Nocera; and Naples, with the adjacent provinces, returned to the obedience* of the emperors of Constantinople.

IV.

LOWER GREEK EMPIRE.

In the course of the century that followed the destruction of the Goths, a very material change took place in political nomenclature, the source of many modern names and subdivisions of countries. In some degree the foundation of the feudal system was laid by Longinus the

exarch, who, after abolishing the dignity of Consulars and Presidents, appointed in each city a Duke, and in every castle a Warden.

V.

L O M B A R D S.

In 558, the eunuch Narfes, a discontented general of the Emperor Justin, invited the Lombards into Italy, where they made themselves masters of those rich plains, to which they gave their own name. They did not penetrate into the Neapolitan state till the year 589, when their king Autharis marched down the heart of the country, as far as Rhegium, and founded the duchy of Beneventum. The reason of his making his invasion along the range of mountains that divides Italy into two parts, was the invincible aversion his nation at all times betrayed for maritime enterprizes.

The Dukes of Beneventum became formidable potentates, and extended their dominion

over all the southern provinces, except a few sea-ports, that remained faithful to the Greek Emperor, and governed themselves like commonwealths, under his protection. Beneventum survived the downfall of the Lombards in 774, when their monarchy was annihilated by Charlemagne; and two hundred and twenty-eight years after that event, princes of Lombard blood were still seated on the thrones of Capua, Salerno, and Benevento : But Puglir and Calabria obeyed the mandates of the Emperor of Greece.

VI.

NORMANS.

About the beginning of the eleventh century *, forty Norman gentlemen, returning from the Holy Land, a pilgrimage then coming into fashion, stopped at Salerno, where they were received with great hospitality by Guaimar, a

* 1002,

prince

prince of the Lombard line. During their stay at his court, a fleet of Saracens appeared off the harbour, and sent in a threatening message, to intimate that, unless they were immediately supplied with a large sum of money, they would land, sack the city, and lay the territory waste, as they had often done before. These Mahometan rovers were at that time the scourge of Italy : from strong settlements, formed by them on the river Garigliano, and in Sicily, they were wont to issue forth, in powerful fleets, to pillage and lay under contribution all the maritime places of a country too little united, and consequently too weak to make a proper resistance. Guaimar, conscious of his inability to repel them, set about collecting the ransom ; and the pirates landed on the beach, where they abandoned themselves to every species of riotous intemperance. The Normans, unaccustomed to behold such insults tamely submitted to, and esteeming it an eternal stain upon their honour, dastardly to stand by, and see their benefactors

plundered by a set of ruffians, snatched up their arms, rushed out of the gates, and fell upon the Infidels with such impetuosity, that they put the greatest part of them to the sword; the remainder fled to their ships, cut their cables, and immediately ran out to sea.

The grateful Salernitans would gladly have detained their gallant deliverers in Italy; but perceiving them bent upon returning to their native country, dismissed them loaded with valuable presents.

The sight of these treasures, and the rapturous description given by the travellers of the Italian climate, excited the cupidity of other Normans, and tempted many to steer their course that way in search of fortune. Ranulph headed the first emigration; and, having rendered many signal services to the Greek and Lombard princes, was allowed for his recompence to build and fortify Averfa, a small town in Campagna. This was the first settlement his nation made in these provinces, and served for many years

years as a rendezvous and refuge for the Normans on every emergency.

After him came the sons of Tancred of Hauteville, who in military renown left all their countrymen far behind them. Invincible wherever they lent their aid, and terrible to the effeminate Greeks and Italians, they were caressed and sought after by the petty sovereigns, whose dissensions then distracted this country. Maniaces, generalissimo of the Grecian forces, courted their friendship, and engaged them to assist him in the invasion of Sicily, at that time in the hands of the Saracens. With their help he obtained a complete victory over the Mussulmen, and might have achieved the conquest of the island, had he known how to check his national avarice and perfidy; but, while the Normans were intent upon the pursuit of the routed enemy, the Greek seized on all the spoil, and divided it among his own idle soldiers, without reserving any share for those who had earned it at the hazard of their lives. The

Normans

Normans sent Ardwin to expostulate with him on the injustice of his mode of proceeding; but the messenger met with most ignominious treatment from him, was whipped round the camp, and sent back bleeding to his friends. At the sight of his wounds, the adventurers were worked up to a pitch of madness, and with loud cries were about to rush upon the Greeks; when Ardwin, whose deep-rooted resentment disdained a transient revenge, curbed this violence, and, having explained his projects to their chiefs, persuaded them to withdraw secretly across the Faro of Messina. They were no sooner landed in Calabria, than they attacked the principal cities and castles of the Imperial province. In order to pursue their plan with regularity, they elected a chief, and united into one compact confederation. Their first leaders were of Lombard extraction; but they afterwards placed themselves under the direction of William Fierabras, the eldest of Tancred's sons.

After

After his death, they were governed successively by his brothers Dreux and Humphrey, who extended the Norman dominions very considerably; but the great founder of this dynasty was Robert, the fourth brother, surnamed Guiscard, or Wiscard, from his great skill and cunning. His conquests were rapid, and conducted with judgement; nor was his policy in the cabinet inferior to his valour in the field.

VII.

ROBERT, FIRST DUKE.

To Robert, Pope Nicholas II. granted* what it is hard to prove he had any right to dispose of, viz. the title of duke of Puglia, with the perpetual sovereignty of that country; and also of Sicily, if he could conquer it. The truth is, these princes stood so much in need of each other's assistance, to enable them to resist the power of the Emperors, that it is no wonder

* 1059.

they

they endeavoured to secure their mutual attachment by so many reciprocal concessions. Robert, who could not divine the fatal consequences his treaty was to have in future times, promised to the See of Rome an obedience and homage, which he had no intention of paying any longer than it might suit the situation of his affairs : and Nicholas found no difficulty in granting investitures of countries he had never been in possession of, and which he knew must fall into the hands of the Normans, whether he opposed or authorised their usurpation. Emboldened by the papal sanction, Robert and his younger brother Roger invaded Sicily, expelled the Saracens, and soon after completed the conquest of what is now called the kingdom of Naples. A family quarrel * with the Emperor of Constantinople opened a new scene of action for Guiscard's restless spirit. After re-

* His daughter Helen, married to Constantine, son of the emperor Michael Ducas VII., had been sent back, and her husband shut up in a convent, by Nicephorus III.

peated victories, he penetrated into the very heart of Greece, and threatened the throne of the eastern Cæsars with immediate destruction, when he was suddenly recalled to Italy by the danger of his friend the Pope. Robert flew to Rome, defeated and drove away the Emperor Henry IV., by whom the Pontiff had been reduced to the utmost distress, and having secured his ally from future insults, resumed his favourite scheme of subduing Greece; but there, in the midst of his glorious career he was carried off by a malignant fever *.

R O G E R.

Roger, his son by a second wife, succeeded to his dominions, notwithstanding the claims of Bohemund, the offspring of a former marriage, who, finding himself unequal to a contest with his brother supported by his uncle Roger earl of Sicily, accepted of the terms they offered. It was not long before an acci-

* 1085.

dent furnished him with an opportunity of being revenged of them both.

The city of Amalfi having taken advantage of the dissensions among the Normans, and attempted to recover its antient independence, was invested by the joint forces of the three princes. To this siege came Peter the Hermit, to preach the first crusado, armed with papal benedictions, fired with zeal, and endowed with that ecclesiastical unction, and all-persuasive eloquence, which men, even in the most enlightened ages, are seldom able to withstand. At that barbarous æra, such a preacher was irresistible; his call was listened to, his predictions believed, his crosses seized with eagerness. Bohemund, whether hurried away by the phrenzy of devotion and enterprize, or seduced by the desire of revenge, seconded the endeavours of the enthusiast, and, at the head of the flower of the army, marched off for Palestine, leaving his two relations before the walls, with scarce a sufficient force to secure their retreat.

WIL-

WILLIAM.

Roger was succeeded by his son William, on whose demise * without issue, all the Norman possessions in the Two Sicilies devolved upon his cousin Roger, son of the first earl of Sicily aforementioned.

VIII.

ROGER, FIRST KING.

This prince, disdaining the style of Duke, which he thought inadequate to the present fortunes of his house, assumed the title of King. The Pope, alarmed at the rapid progress of the Normans, and apprehensive of their proving an obstacle to his own private views of aggrandisement, called in the assistance of the emperor Lotharius, in order to check a power, which, if timely opposition were not made, might en-

* 1127.

danger the liberties of Italy. Lotharius marched a formidable army into the new-erected kingdom, and carried all before him; while Roger wisely retired from the storm to collect his strength. The fury of the invaders was soon spent, and they wasted away with inaction and malady. The King harraffed them in their retreat, recovered every post, drove the Germans out of the kingdom, and, having taken Pope Innocent II. prisoner, forced him to recognize his title, and grant him investiture.

Roger then destroyed the shadow of independence which still existed in some maritime cities, invaded Africa, conquered Tunis, and afterwards made a successful invasion into Greece. He did not, however, confine his ambition to military renown, but was also attentive to the internal administration of affairs; and at his death * left every department of government in so flourishing a state, that, as far as the feeble wisdom of man could foresee, he

* 1154.

had just cause to hope that his throne was fixed upon a most immoveable basis. The consequence of supine negligence in his successor shewed how fallacious are all human projects, and how easy it is for mismanagement to overthrow the best-concerted plans.

W I L L I A M I.

The second King was Roger's son William, an unhappy prince, though little molested by foreign enemies. Indolence gave him up a willing prey to wicked ministers; but, whenever he was roused to action by attacks from abroad, the spirit of his ancestors rose within him, and he repelled every hostile assault with the courage of a Guiscard. The Pope and the Emperor pressed at one time very hard upon him, but he baffled all their attempts: had he been as successful at home, his reign would make a very different figure in the Sicilian chronicles from what it now does. Majone, his favourite,

governed the nation in so oppressive a manner, that he provoked the barons to conspire against him. They murdered the minister, imprisoned the monarch, and placed the crown on the head of his infant son. This unfortunate child being killed by a random arrow, the courage of the rebels sunk, William regained the sceptre, glutted his revenge with the blood of the conspirators, and passed the remainder of his days in melancholy peace. Depressed with misfortunes, sick of ambition, destitute of friends, and incapable of any laudable occupation, he arrived at length at such a pitch of dismay and dejection, as to forbid his attendants to inform him of any circumstance that might disturb his quiet. The consequences were, that, under the sanction of his authority, his officers exercised the most brutal tyranny with impunity; and William descended to the grave*, detested by all good men, and branded for ever with the odious appellation of the Bad.

* 1167.

WILLIAM II.

The factions among the great vassals disturbed the first years of his son William's reign; but when he grew up to manhood, all these turbulencies subsided. A mild, prudent, and equitable administration, added to the merit of boundless munificence to the church, and unshaken attachment to the See of Rome, procured for him the inestimable surname of the Good. The greatest proof that can be given how well he deserved this honourable epithet, is the desire which the Sicilians expressed, in all subsequent quarrels with their sovereigns, of having things put upon the same footing, and the laws exercised with the same impartiality, as they were in the days of Good King William. Not having any heirs of his body, and being desirous of preventing a civil war, he gave his aunt Constance, a posthumous child of King Roger, in marriage to Henry of Swabia, king

of the Romans; and soon after died *, having reigned twenty-three years in such profound peace and tranquillity, that historians, who delight more in tumultuous and bloody scenes, have neglected to transmit to us any particulars of the last ten years of his reign †.

TANCRED.

When this good king died, his appointed successors were absent; and the Sicilians, in defiance of the allegiance they had sworn to them, called to the throne Tancred earl of Lecce, natural son of Roger, elder brother of William I. This reign was short and turbulent; but the Germans would in all probability have been completely excluded, had Tancred, who

* 1189.

† Montagne says, 'Les bons historiens fuyent comme une eau dormante et mer morte des narrations calmes pour regagner les séditions, les guerres, où ils savent que nous les appellons.'

was an excellent and valiant prince, lived long enough to settle himself on the slippery seat. Excessive grief for the loss of an accomplished and favourite son, on whom he had rested every fond hope of future joy and greatness, brought this affectionate parent to an untimely grave *, and blasted at once all the budding fortunes of his family.

WILLIAM III.

William, his surviving son, was too young and weak to resist the power of Henry, now become emperor, and assisted by the fickle barons. The unhappy youth was obliged to surrender himself to his rival, who, contrary to his plighted faith, deprived him of liberty, fight, and manhood †.

* 1192.

† 1194.

IX.

S W A B I A N S.

H E N R Y A N D C O N S T A N T I A.

Henry, who was a monster of cruelty, put to death every adherent of Tancred's, not even sparing the traitors, who had deserted William to join the Imperial standard. His mean brutality led him to dig up the body of Tancred, and expose it to the birds of prey. Sicily was laid waste, her churches plundered, her wealth transported into foreign countries, and her streets stained with the blood of her most distinguished citizens. But now the Sicilians perceiving that the Emperor was bent upon exterminating the whole Norman race, rushed to arms. An universal rebellion broke out, at the head of which appeared Constantia herself, unable any longer to bear with the inhumanity of her

her husband. Henry was driven out of the island, and forced to subscribe to the most humiliating terms of pacification. He did not long survive his disgrace; and the Empress died soon after *, leaving the crown to Frederick, their only son, an infant.

FREDERICK I. II. AS EMPEROR.

A most disorderly minority ensued: but by the good management of Pope Innocent III., who ruled as regent and guardian to the young king, his dominions were preserved entire: and, as soon as he came of age, Frederick obtained the Imperial diadem by the influence of his kind tutor. This cordiality between the two powers was but of short duration; and their subsequent animosity was violent in proportion to the warmth of their former attachment. During a long course of years, they persecuted

* 1198.

each other with unremitting malevolence : these diffentions embittered the best part of the Emperor's life, and laid a foundation for troubles and intestine commotions, which at length brought the house of Swabia to utter destruction. In hopes of pacifying the pontiff, Frederick embarked for the Holy Wars ; but scarce had he set foot in Palestine, when news was brought him that Gregory IX. had debauched many of the barons from their allegiance, and invaded the kingdom of Naples. The Emperor immediately patched up a peace with the Infidels, and returned to Italy. Surrounded by domestic enemies, pestered with papal anathemas, and worn out in counteracting their machinations, Frederick expired *, not without some suspicion of poison, said to have been administered by his natural son Manfred ; but no satisfactory reasons have been given for suspecting him of this parricide.

* 1250.

CONRAD.

As soon as the Emperor's death was known, the Pope renewed his attack, expecting to find the kingdom a defenceless prey; but the sudden appearance of Conrad, son and heir of Frederick, overturned his projects. This young Emperor crushed the insurgents, stormed Naples, and exercised great cruelty upon his opponents. He reigned only four years; and his death* is also ascribed, by the ecclesiastical writers, to their capital enemy Manfred.

MANFRED.

Conradine, the only son of Conrad, being absent in Germany at the time of his father's death, the pope seized upon the kingdom; but Manfred, as regent, dispossessed him, and, a report being spread of Conradine's death, assumed the reins of government in his own name.

* 1254.

The Roman pontiffs, finding themselves foiled in their military attacks by the superior skill of their adversary, and their spiritual thunderbolts of little avail against an enemy that screened himself behind the shield of incredulity, took another method, and offered the crown of Sicily to any prince that would drive out the present excommunicated possessor. The first that was found able to put this plan in execution was Charles of Anjou, brother to Lewis the Ninth king of France. He accepted the offer, whether solely urged by his own ambition, or pushed on by the vanity of his wife, who longed to be a queen as well as her sisters*. He penetrated into the kingdom, and gained a decisive victory at Benevento over Manfred, who fell in the field of battle. Constance, daughter of this

* The daughters of Raymund, earl of Provence, were Margaret, married to Lewis IX. king of France; Eleanor, to Henry III. king of England; Sancha, to Richard earl of Cornwall, and king of the Romans; and Beatrix, to Charles earl of Anjou.

unfortunate prince, married * Peter king of Aragon †.

ANGEVINES.

CHARLES THE FIRST.

Charles no sooner thought himself firmly seated on his new throne, than he gave a loose to his natural temper, and ruled his subjects with a rod of iron. This usage provoked them to invite Conradine to the inheritance of his ancestors; but their good intentions served only to complete the ruin of the Swabian family. The unfortunate youth was defeated, betrayed, taken prisoner, and beheaded. His death did not, however, remain long unrevenge'd: Charles and his Frenchmen rendered their yoke so galling to the Sicilians, whose honour, property, and lives, were become the

* 1266.

† It is remarkable, that their present Sicilian Majesties are both descended by Constantia from the heroic house of Swabia,

sport of the licentious conquerors, that on Easter Monday, in the year 1282, the people of Palermo raised the standard of revolt. The whole island followed the example of the capital, and a general massacre ensued, in which every Frenchman but one* was put to the sword without mercy; an event known in history by the name of the Sicilian Vespers. The insurgents offered the crown to Peter of Aragon; a long war ensued, in the course of which Charles met with nothing but misfortunes, and died † of a broken heart.

CHARLES II.

Charles, his eldest son, was actually a prisoner at the time of his father's death: having recovered his liberty, and made many ineffectual attempts to drive the Aragonese out of Sicily, he concluded a peace with them, and, being a

* William Porcelet, whose life was spared in consideration of his virtue and justice.

† 1285.

good and moderate man, turned his whole attention towards the welfare and improvement of his kingdom of Naples*.

R O B E R T.

He was succeeded by his second son Robert, though Charles Martel, king of Hungary, who was the eldest, and died before his father, had left children. Charibert, king of Hungary, put in his claim, upon which it was agreed by both parties, to submit to the umpirage of the Pope. The papal decree confirmed Robert in the possession. He has been accused of having poisoned his brother, in order to pave his way to the throne.

Being little molested by external enemies, his long reign was glorious and fortunate, as far as foreign affairs were concerned; but, in the circle of his own family, he was completely wretched. He had outlived his only son, and, with a view of preventing disputes about the

* 1309.

succession, had given his grand-daughter and heiress Joan in marriage to Andrew of Hungary, a worthless prince, with whom she was likely to be very miserable. The foresight of approaching disasters oppressed his aged spirit, and hastened his dissolution *.

JOAN THE FIRST.

Andrew soon became so hateful to his queen and her subjects, that a conspiracy was formed to take away his life: the murder was committed at Averfa. Modern authors pretend, that his wife was not privy to it; but I do not think their proofs sufficient to refute the arguments of those contemporaries that lay it to her charge. Her widowhood was short: Lewis of Taranto, of the blood royal, a prince endowed with many good qualities, was her second husband. He and Joan were obliged soon after to fly before the king of Hungary, who invaded Naples, to revenge his brother's murder, and

* 1343.

put several nobles to death on that account. The Hungarian being recalled by domestic tumults to his own dominions, Joan returned to Italy. Her third husband was James of Aragon; and her fourth, Otho of Brunswick. Being now far advanced in years, and past all hopes of having children, she instituted her relation, Charles of Durazzo, her heir. This prince, jealous of the designs of Otho, doubtful of the queen's steadiness, and impatient to be in possession of the crown, assembled an army, attacked Naples, took the queen prisoner, and is supposed to have put an end to her existence *.

XI.

DURAZZIAN S.

CHARLES III.

When Charles invaded her dominions, Joan had no commander of eminence to oppose to

• 1382.

VOL. I.

D

him :

him: she therefore called to her aid, and adopted, Lewis of Anjou, son to John, king of France; but he came too late to prove of any service to his ill-fated benefactress. However, he secured to himself the quiet possession of her French territories, and was in a fair way of conquering the Neapolitan ones, when he fell sick and died.

Charles, though peaceable possessor of Naples, could not rest satisfied with his good fortune, but listened to the invitation of the Hungarian malcontents, who wished to depose Mary, the only child of his old friend and protector, King Lewis. He agreed to their proposals, went to Hungary, and was proclaimed king; but, not long after, the young queen's party recovered from their consternation, and assassinated him in the palace*.

* 1386.

LADISLAUS.

The kingdom of Naples alone descended to his infant son Ladislaus, during whose non-age every thing was in a perpetual ferment. On coming of age, he found the Angevines masters of three-fourths of the realm; and to recover them out of their hands, required all his courage and good fortune. He afterwards took a leading part in the troubles of Italy, tyrannized over Rome, dictated to most of the petty potentates, and attempted to conquer Hungary. The pope, alarmed at his prosperity, called in Lewis the Second of Anjou, who defeated the Durazzians at Ceparano, and, had he known how to make use of his victory, would have ruined their party beyond redemption; but, having loitered away his time, instead of pursuing his advantage, he gave his adversary an opportunity of collecting fresh forces, and gaining such a superiority as was no longer to be

D 2

resisted.

resisted. Ladislaus, delivered from enemies at home, and an over-match for those abroad, gave himself up to pleasure, and shortened his days by excess of debauchery *.

JOAN THE SECOND.

His only sister, Joan, succeeded him : a woman more noted for her lasciviousness than any princess since Messalina, without one virtue to balance her vices ; a slave to lust and vile favourites, her life was a continual round of riot, distress, and civil turmoils. At the age of forty-seven, and much against her will, the clamours of the people forced her to contract a second marriage, and take to her bed the Count of La Marche, who aimed at absolute dominion, and used her with great severity. She plotted with Sforza, an adventurer, recovered the reins of government, and sent her

* 1414.

husband

husband back to France. Joan was scarce rid of this incumbrance, when another opponent started up. This was a third Lewis of Anjou, who carried on his attack with such vigour, that the queen was under the necessity of applying for succour to Alphonfus, king of Aragon and Sicily, whom she adopted. No sooner had the Spaniard deprived the Angevines of the power of giving her uneasiness, than the fickle old woman grew tired of her adopted son, revoked the deed of gift, and bestowed the reversion upon Lewis, her former antagonist. Alphonfus was driven out of the kingdom, and seemed to have laid aside all thoughts of adding Naples to his hereditary dominions, when the death of Joan and Lewis * left the kingdom once more open to his attack; but it was not without a long struggle, and much bloodshed, that he achieved the conquest.

* 1435.

XII.

A R A G O N E S E.

ALPHONSUS I.

The crowns of the Two Sicilies being thus re-united upon one brow, these desolated provinces were by degrees restored to peace and opulence: blessings to which they had been long strangers. This great prince died without legitimate issue, having survived Joan twenty-three years. Sicily and Aragon devolved to his brother John, king of Navarre; and Naples, by virtue of a previous agreement, fell to his natural son Ferdinand*.

FERDINAND I.

The reign of Ferdinand the First was long, but not happy, being disturbed by two dange-

* 1458.

rous rebellions, which shook his throne to the centre, though he triumphed over them both. By every method, which victory and breach of faith could enable him to pursue, he exterminated the principal families engaged in those revolts; but their spirit survived, prepared, and enforced the blow that so suddenly and irresistibly overwhelmed his successor. Ferdinand, however, died in peace *, and was succeeded by his son.

ALPHONSUS THE SECOND.

Alphonfus the Second, was a man of great military fame, but of a most sanguinary temper, the instigator and actor of all the treacheries and cruelties that sullied his father's annals. Chastisement was not tardy in overtaking him; for he had scarce held the sceptre a few months, before Charles the Eighth, king of France, as heir to the house of Anjou, marched to Naples

* 1494.

at the head of a formidable army. On his approach, Alphonfus was struck with fuch a panic, that, forgetful of honour and intereft, he abdicated his crown, left his fon to make the beft defence he could, and fled to Sicily *, where he foon died of fhame and defpair.

FERDINAND THE SECOND.

Ferdinand the Second retired before the enemy, while Charles made his triumphal entry into the capital. This blaze of French glory was, like a wintry fun, glaring and tranfitory. Charles returned to France, and Gonfalvo, the great Spanifh captain, reinstated Ferdinand in all his poffeffions. Unfortunately he did not live long enough to reftore any degree of firmnefs to the tottering fortunes of his family †.

* 1495.

† 1496.

FREDERICK THE SECOND.

Upon his decease, his uncle Frederick succeeded; a learned good prince, and worthy of a better fate. He was overpowered by a confederacy entered into by Ferdinand the Catholic, king of Spain, and Lewis the Twelfth, king of France, to seize upon and divide the kingdom of Naples between them. The execution of the project was easy for two such powerful monarchs; and Frederick, bereft of friends and hopes, surrendered up his person to Lewis, expecting better treatment at his hands, than at those of his perfidious cousin of Aragon. But by this step he is thought to have lost opportunities of re-ascending his throne; he spent the few remaining years of his life at Tours, while his wretched family was left * to wander about the world hopeless and unbefriended.

* 1504.

XIII.

FERDINAND THE THIRD.

The unnatural compact between these kings could not long hold together, as fraud and violence were its foundation. Matters were soon embroiled, and war ensued; the French were expelled, and both shares irrecoverably secured to Ferdinand. At his death *, Naples, with all his other dominions, passed to his grandson.

XIV.

A U S T R I A N S.

CHARLES IV, FIFTH AS EMPEROR, 1556.

PHILIP KING OF SPAIN THE SECOND, 1598.

PHILIP THE THIRD, 1621.

PHILIP THE FOURTH, 1665.

Charles of Austria, afterwards emperor of the Romans, the fifth of the name.

* 1516.

During

During this, and every succeeding reign of the Austrian family, these kingdoms were governed by viceroys, and seldom honoured with the presence of their sovereign. The oppressions of the governors, the complaints of the people, and outrages of the barons; the depredations of the Turks, French, or banditti, were the only interruptions to the public peace, till the year 1647, when a famous insurrection broke out. Masaniello, the leader of the sedition, stirred up the mob of Naples, on account of some duties laid upon fruit; drove the viceroy into the castle, and, for a few days, strutted the dictator of the Neapolitan republic. On his being murdered, things returned quietly to their wonted channel. About this time, the duke of Guise came to Naples, and endeavoured to make himself king; but his enterprize failed for want of support from France.

CHARLES THE SECOND, 1700.

Thus fatigued with every disquiet and inconvenience incident to a delegated administration,
Naples

Naples continued to obey the Spaniards with a heavy heart, until the extinction of the Austrian line in 1700 opened a new field for litigation.

XV.

BOURBON.

PHILIP THE FIFTH.

AUSTRIANS.

CHARLES THE SIXTH.

The great contest for the inheritance of Charles the Second changed the whole political system of Italy. Naples, at first, was occupied by Philip of Bourbon; but, in 1706, was conquered by the Austrians, and at the peace of Utrecht, in 1713, confirmed to the emperor Charles the Sixth.

XVI.

XVI.

BOURBON.

CHARLES THE SEVENTH.

In 1734, Elizabeth, second wife of Philip the Fifth, king of Spain, being ambitious of procuring a settlement for her son Don Carlos, caused Spain to engage in a war with the emperor; the event of which was, that the Infant conquered Naples, and, by the treaty of peace, was left in full possession, with the title of King of the Two Sicilies.

FERDINAND THE FOURTH.

In 1759, on the death of Ferdinand the Sixth of Spain, Charles succeeded to the Spanish crown, and resigned his Sicilian dominions to his third son, Ferdinand the Fourth, now reigning. Philip, the eldest, was set aside for idiotism;
and

and Charles the Second taken by his father to Madrid as prince of Asturias, and heir apparent to the Spanish monarchy *.

N. B. As any discussion of chronological doubts would have been absurd in an abridgment of history, I have fixed all epochas at the most probable dates.

* Now King of Spain; by the name of Charles IV. *

A VOY.

A
V O Y A G E
FROM
M A R S E I L L E S
TO
N A P L E S,
1776.

S E C T I O N I.

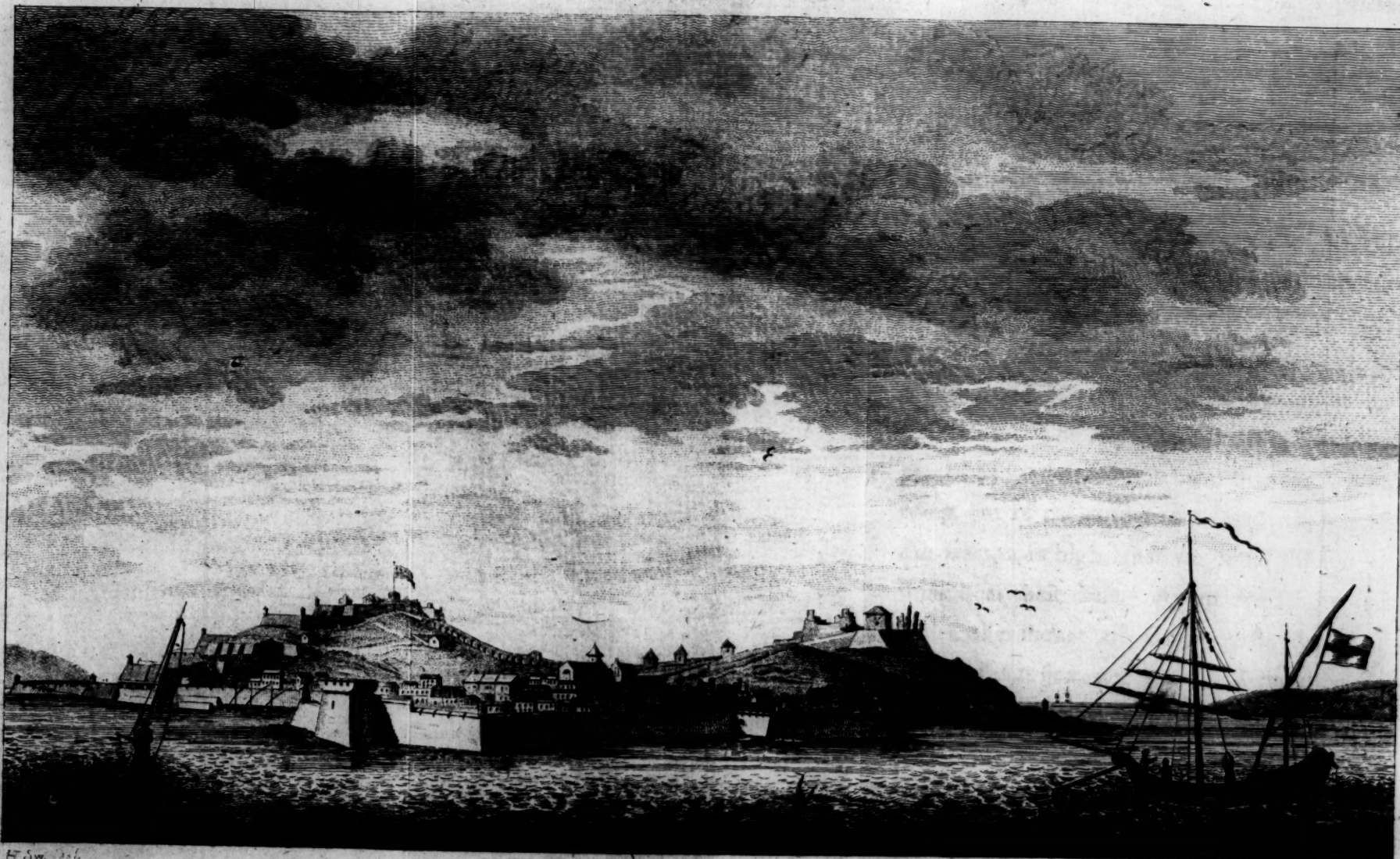
THE season of the year being far advanced, and the Alps covered with snow, I thought it unadvisable with a family to undertake a journey into Italy by land; and therefore, in company with Sir Thomas Gascoigne, hired a French polacre at Marseilles, and embarked for Naples on the 17th of December, 1776.

The

The getting under sail was tedious, as the currents obliged us to tow out from buoy to buoy; but when once clear of the land, we went at a prodigious rate, before a brisk north-west wind, which in the evening increased to a storm.

All that night, and the ensuing day, the gale continued, and drove us on very fast. As the sea was rough, and the waves short, the irregular jerks and tossings of our ship kept us in perpetual alarms; but fortunately it was tight and well built. The Alps, immersed in snow, appeared on the left hand, about four leagues off, rising out of the waters to a wonderful height: the sea ran so high, that we could discern nothing near their base. About sun-set, we got under the shelter of Cape Corso, the N. E. point of Corsica, and lay-to all night in still water. By this delay, we lost the opportunity of passing through the straits of Piombino; for, before morning, the boisterous MAESTRAL sank into a very dull zephyr, which faintly
brought





H. & W. 1866

PORTO FERRAIO.

Parry & Co

brought us to the island of Elba, and there left us in a dead calm. We were towed into the harbour of Porto-Ferraio, where Mons. de Langres, the governor, a native of Lorraine, received us with great politeness, and contributed every thing in his power to make our involuntary visit to his port less irksome.

The island of Elba, known to the Greeks by the name of Aithalia, and to the Romans by that of Ilva, has been renowned for its mines from a period beyond the reach of history. Aristotle speaks of them as opened from time immemorial, and Virgil brings a succour to Æneas of three hundred men from

Ilva,

Infula inexhaustis chalybum generosa metallis *.

It lies about ten miles S. W. from Tuscany, in latitude $42^{\circ} 50'$. Its figure is that of an equilateral triangle. Pliny gives it a circuit of

* "Elba, an island rich in inexhaustible mines of steel"

an hundred miles. Late geographers allow only sixty to its circumference ; but, as no map has yet been made upon exact observations, and as the circuit would be much more considerable if every creek and inlet were measured, perhaps the Roman mensuration may come nearer the truth than the modern one. The difference might even be accounted for by the encroachments of the sea, and by the tumbling in of the rocks, which are, in many places, of a mouldering contexture.

Being extremely mountainous, Elba affords but scanty room for cultivation, and produces little more than six months provision of corn for its seven thousand inhabitants. It is said to have been peopled from Volterra, in very ancient times, the capital of Tuscany, and perhaps of all Italy.

The property is at present divided between the Prince of Piombino, who possesses the largest share ; the King of Naples, to whom
Porto-

Porto-Longone belongs; and the Great Duke of Tuscany, who is master of Porto-Ferraio.

The climate is much milder than that of the adjacent continent; for Elba produces many plants and fruits that cannot stand the Tuscan winters.

The south-west part of the island is the most elevated, and consists of lofty unfruitful mountains, composed of black and white granite susceptible of a fine polish. In an old quarry, on the south shore, may be seen several pillars and basons roughly hewn, and left unfinished. The columns of the cathedral of Pisa are said to have been cut out of these rocks. Under this granite is a stratum of slate.

The N. E. and S. E. parts are chiefly argillaceous slate and iron-stone, with a quarry of grey marble, and some veins of serpentine. Amianthus is frequent among the shivery rocks. Near the N. E. point is the hill, or mine, of iron ore, belonging to Rio, which supplies most of the forges of Italy. At the S. E. cape is

the Monte della Calamita, so called from the loadstone with which it abounds. This is the *magnes colore fusco rubente* of the mineralogists, and appears to be a ferruginous substance that has passed through a very violent fire without vitrification. The efficient of magnetism still remains in the unfathomed depths of nature's first causes. Mons. de Buffon defines it, a constant effect of electricity produced by the interior heat, and the rotation of the globe; but if it depended on no other cause, we should not experience such variation in the compass. The best magnets in Elba are found near the sea; but to come at strong ones, the ground must be dug into: because the air, or the rays of the sun, eat out the force of those that lie long exposed to them on the surface. The earth, mixed with these stones, is full of martial particles, which stick to the pick-axe in the shape of little tufts of bristles. The layer that supports the magnetic heaps is a blue whetstone slate, with a small mixture of calcareous stones.

At

At the bottom of the mountain is found a bole, vulgarly named *white loadstone*, not from any real attractive virtue, but from a roughness that causes the tongue to adhere to it. It was formerly much worn as a charm by lovers, and supposed to draw, with great force, the affections of the beloved object towards the wearer.

The soil of Elba is very shallow, with few places level enough for corn. The wine is good, if made with care, and properly kept; the fruit of its standard-trees is said to be exquisite; orange and lemon-trees seem to thrive very well in the sheltered vallies and narrow plains near the sea.

About four thousand tons of salt are made near Porto-Ferraio, which has likewise a tunny fishery, worth annually to the Grand Duke one thousand three hundred pounds Sterling. The Prince of Piombino has another at Marciana, that clears one thousand pounds per annum.

Porto-Ferraio * is a very pretty town, built on a shelving rock that closes in a large circular bay; the land all around is high and woody; the entrance of the bay wide, and easy to hit; but so open to the N. E. winds, that, when they blow with violence, there are few anchoring-places where a ship can ride in security. The streets and fortifications rise one above another, like rows of seats in an ancient amphitheatre, and present a most beautiful spectacle to those that approach by water. To the sea, nothing appears but the two citadels, Stella and Falcone. All the upper range of works is cut out of the rock into vaults and intricate communications. In the centre of the semicircle,

* It was called Portus-Argous from Argo, the ship of Jason, which the confused traditionary legend of the ancients brought out into the Mediterranean, that Medea might have an opportunity of communing with her sister sorceress Circe. Homer, in his *Odyssey*, informs us, that, by the particular favour of Jove, this celebrated ship passed unhurt through the Straits of Scylla and Charybdis.

is a smaller port or *darfena* for boats and galleys, defended by a couple of bastions, and shut up every evening with a boom. A commodious quay communicates with all the streets, by means of large flights of steps.

Elba was held with Piombino by the Appiani as a fief of the empire, till Charles the Fifth thought proper to transfer it to Cosmo the first duke of Florence, that he might secure it and the adjacent coast from the insults of the Turks and French, which the preceding feudatory was not in a condition to repel. The duke built Ferraio in 1548; but it was not brought to the present state of perfection before the reign of Cosmo the Second, who completed these fortifications in 1628, with a magnificence equal to that displayed by the old Romans in their public undertakings. The gates are decorated with sculpture, and the rings for fastening cables to are of carved bronze. The garrison is small, and the artillery trifling, for so large a fortress; but the neutrality of its master is its

present security, and renders a stronger force unnecessary.

SECTION II.

THERE being no appearance of a favourable change in the wind, we made an excursion to the iron mines.

We crossed the bay, and ascended the mountain by a very rugged path. The gullies that seam its sides are full of orchards, with some few orange-trees, cut to pieces and stunted by the N. W. wind. The waste is covered with myrtle, laurustinus, lentiscus, arbutus, and many other flowering shrubs. The summit of these mountains is bare of wood, but not of verdure.

On a shaggy rock stands the Tower of Voltorajo, where six soldiers defend the frontiers of the Tuscan state, marked out by stones placed in angular directions along the top of the ridge
that

that encompasses the bay of Porto-Ferraio. The view from this Tower is wonderfully fine every way, as the eye overlooks the whole island, that of Corsica, many scattered islets, the channel of Piombino, and a great range of continent.

We descended on the east side of the mountain to Rio, a poor village inhabited by miners. Under it breaks out the only rivulet in Elba, which does not run above a mile before it falls into the sea ; but the water gushes out of the rock in such abundance, that it turns seventeen mills in that short course. We followed this pretty stream down a narrow vale, cultivated with great nicety, and planted with orange and other fruit-trees, till it brought us to the celebrated iron mine.

This mine is not, like most others, composed of ferruginous strata, or of pieces of ore dispersed among heterogeneous substances, in horizontal streaks or accidental lumps, which are come at with difficulty, by means of galleries, engines, and deep pits ; on the contrary,
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it forms one large hill of solid ore, worked in three terraces, after the manner of a fine quarry of stone, by clearing away the top, and hewing or blasting the rock, till it drops in shivers into the area, from whence it is wheeled to the place of sale. The circumference of this iron hill is near three miles, and the depth of the ore to the flaty foundation about three hundred feet. Where it has not yet been touched, or has lain undisturbed many years, vines and other plants grow tolerably well on the surface, and are said by Koeftlin* to contain particles of iron in their leaves and stems, as may be discovered by calcination. If this were really the case, which I very much doubt, it would give a greater degree of credibility to the stories told in Hungary, where bits of gold are shewn adhering to the stalks and grapes of the Tokay vines, supposed to have been drawn out of the ground by the plant in the course of vegetation.

* A German physician, who published an account of Elba in 1780.

The place where the present works are carried on resembles a funnel with one side broken down. About seven hundred pounds weight of gunpowder are consumed annually in blasting, and one hundred and six men constantly employed with the pickaxe or barrow. From a scarcity of wood, none of the ore is smelted on the island, but is sold to the agents of the Tuscan, Roman, Corsican, and Neapolitan furnaces, at the rate of fifty-one crowns *per cento*; a weight consisting of thirty-three thousand three hundred and thirty-three pounds and an half each. The Corsicans and Tuscans have a right to pick the ore, for which they pay an additional price. All others take it unsorted, and, with every parcel of large ore, are obliged to take a tenth part of the refuse; the two privileged traders have a fifth.

This ore is beautiful, abounding in rainbow shoots and crystallisations; but although it appears to the eye and the feel to be almost one solid mass of iron, it is by no means so rich as
many

many iron ores in the north of Europe, and hardly yields half its weight in pure metal.

It is a doubt, whether this mine of Rio be the same mentioned, by Aristotle and other ancient authors, to have been open in their time, but it is generally believed to be so. Pini, who in 1777 gave a dissertation on Elba, makes a calculation to prove, that it is possible these mines may have been continually wrought since that very distant period, without being more exhausted than we see them. He supposes the present area, where the ore is dug, to be a cylinder of five thousand feet in circumference, upon a depth of two hundred feet, capable of containing three hundred and ninety-seven millions seven hundred and twenty-seven thousand cubic feet of earth or ore, of which only one third part, or one hundred and thirty-two millions five hundred and seventy-five thousand six hundred and sixty-six two thirds is to be assigned to the solid mineral; that each cubic foot of ore weighs four hundred and eight pounds;

pounds; and therefore, that the whole weight of the ore hitherto dug out amounts to fifty-four thousand and ninety millions eight hundred and seventy-two thousand pounds. Now, for many years back, the annual exportation has not exceeded forty-one millions six hundred and sixty-six thousand two hundred and fifty pounds weight; by which computation it appears, that it would require one thousand two hundred and ninety-eight years to work out a quantity equal to what may be contained in the above-mentioned area. But as the Steward assured me, he did not sell, upon an average, more than thirty-five millions of pounds weight a year, the allowance made by Pini is too great by near a seventh. Besides, much more copper was used anciently in arms and utensils than at present; gunpowder was unknown, and consequently greater difficulties attended the miner's art. The ore of Elba was probably smelted at no other place than that from which it derived its name, *Populonium*; and therefore we may believe,

believe, that a much smaller quantity than thirty-five millions was annually extracted; consequently the mine could not be worked down to its actual state in so short a term as one thousand two hundred and ninety-eight years. The extent of the part yet untouched will afford employment for many ages to come, notwithstanding the greater expedition used in modern metallurgy. The Prince of Piombino, to whom these treasures belong, receives from the sale, *communibus annis*, about forty thousand Roman crowns (nine thousand five hundred and twenty-three pounds Sterling), clear of all expences*.

The

* Lobarde, in a note upon this passage of his translation, doubts the accuracy of my calculations; he thinks £.3380 ft. (which is nearly the amount of what I state as the expences of working, &c.) much too small an allowance for 106 miners, beside officers, overseers, and the expence of carriage. In answer to this it must be observed, that part of the 106 workmen wheel the ore to the boats, which is all the carriage required, while the remainder breaks down the blocks of ore; and I imagine that the pay of these

The ancients were of opinion, that the ore was reproduced in a course of years by a species of vegetation ; and such has been the sentiment of some moderns, who allege, that many pick-axes, and other implements, have been found in old workings, covered with an incrustation of iron. As none of these tools have been met with in the heart of the virgin rock, but always in the trenches, where the shiver of old grooves has been thrown, the crust gathered round them is no proof of the regeneration of iron. It is plain, that this coat is not produced by the same causes that create an increase of bulk in plants, viz. the accession of proper food and juices assimilating themselves to the plant, and becoming part of it. This incrustation is no more than the junction of innumerable minute particles of iron dispersed in the rubbish

these 106 labourers does not exceed £.2000 per annum ; and as the officers are few in number, the remainder of the £.3380 is more than sufficient for their salaries and the wear and tear of tools.

of

of the works, which run together, and by length of time consolidate into a mineral mass.

SECTION III.

ON the twenty-second, a faint breeze carried us out of the harbour of Porto-Ferraio, into the channel that divides Elba from the Tuscan coast.

The captain assured me, that the compass was of no use in steering a ship within four leagues of Elba, as the needle veered about continually with great irregularity. Some authors deny the existence of any such attraction in the island, or even its possibility; others are of opinion, that if this attractive power exist, it can be perceptible only on the side where the mines lie, and that a vessel must be very near the island to be within the reach of its magnetic action. Without attempting to argue the point, I shall

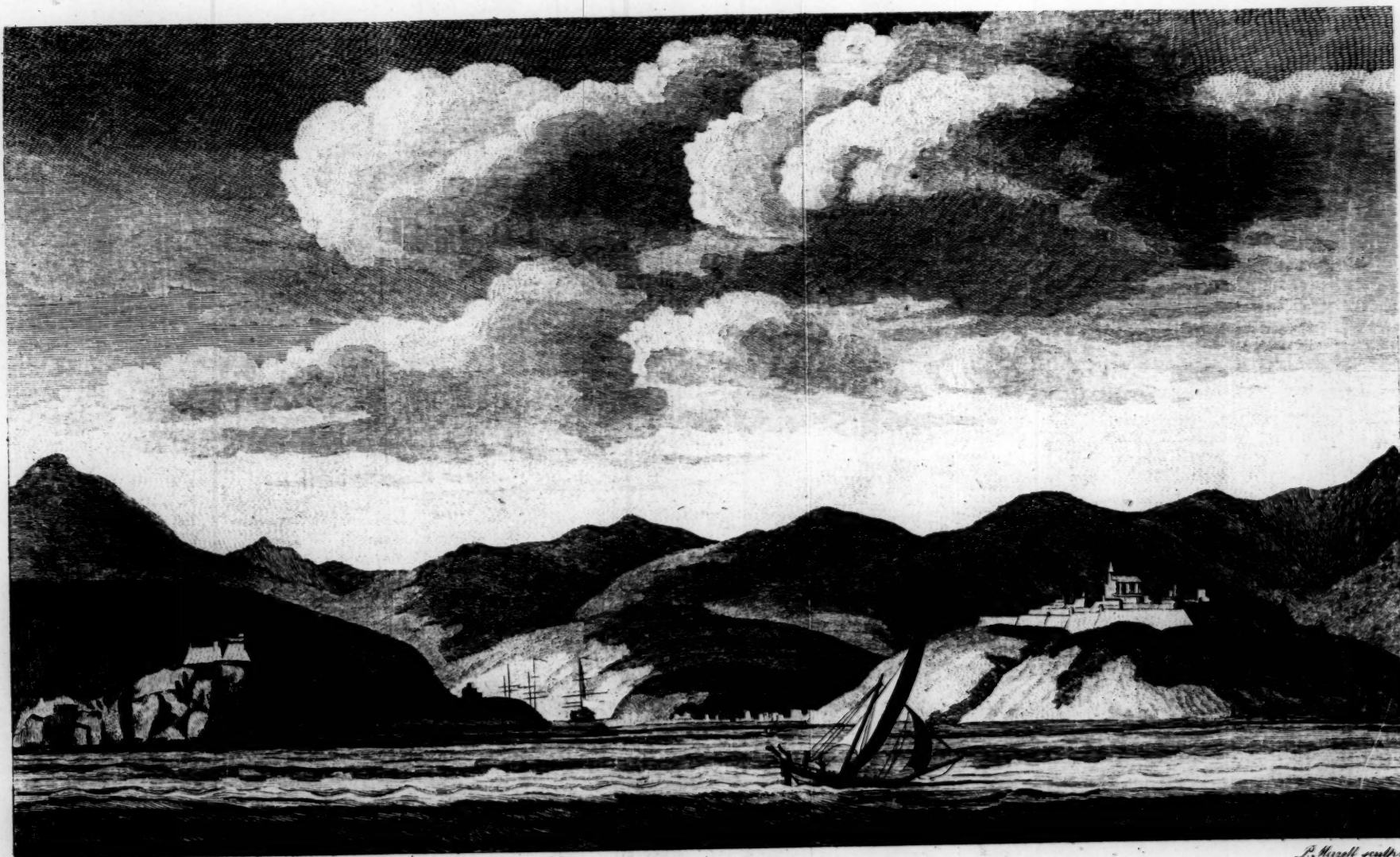
I shall content myself with mentioning, that I perceived the utmost confusion and variation in the needle most part of the day, though we constantly kept at the distance of a league from Elba.

The wind was low and unsettled, and twenty-four hours passed in tacks. This delay, and the fineness of the weather, afforded leisure to examine the coast of Tuscany, which is flat and woody, backed at a great distance by the mountains of Sienna; those of Montenero, near Leghorn, bound the horizon to the north; and on the south quarter, the ridge behind Orbitello, with the insulated promontory of Monte Argentario, closes the prospect. The channel is about ten miles wide; but, from the clearness of the atmosphere, does not appear to be more than five. Some small islands dispersed in the passage, the high lands of Elba, the city of Piombino, and a great variety of vessels sailing in all directions, composed a most delightful marine piece, worthy of the pencil of a Claude or a Vernet.

Piombino, built on the point of a little bay, is the capital of a principality formerly belonging to the republic of Pisa, and, on the destruction of that commonwealth, occupied by private usurpers. From the fifteenth century, it was possessed by the Appiani family, which became extinct in the reign of the Emperor Ferdinand the Second. He seized upon it as an imperial escheat; and in 1634, sold it to Nicholas Ludovisi, nephew to Pope Gregory the Fifteenth. A grand-daughter of Nicholas carried the estate and honours into the house of Buoncompagno, Duke of Sora.

Not far from hence stood the ancient city of Populonia, a colony of the Volterrans, and one of the first cities built in Italy near the sea-coast. After the fall of the Roman empire, this place became a prey to the Goths and Lombards; and at last, Charlemagne made the Pope a present of it, who did not long enjoy the advantages of the donation; for in 809, some lawless tribes

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H. Sw. del.

P. Mitchell sculp.

PORTO LONGONE.

of mountaineers levelled Populonia with the ground.

In the morning of the twenty-third, so strong a gale sprang up in the S. E. that we were glad to run into Porto Longone, to avoid being blown through the channel back to the coast of France.

Porto Longone is a considerable fortress, begun in 1606, and completed in thirty years. Cardinal Mazarin, with a view of disturbing the Spaniards in their communication with Italy, and of mortifying the Pope, whom he knew to be a zealous partisan of Spain, sent the Marechal de la Meilleraie, in 1646, with a fleet and army, to attack Piombino and Porto Longone. The former was carried in a few days, and the latter obliged to capitulate after a fortnight's siege. Both places were retaken, in 1650, by Don John of Austria.

It is now garrisoned by Neapolitan troops, as being annexed to the crown of the Two Sicilies, with the rest of the Tuscan Presidii,

since Philip the Fifth ceded to his son Don Carlos all his claims upon that kingdom. It stands upon the north-east promontory of a large bay. At the bottom of this bay, a projecting rock, with a small castle upon it, defends and hides the entrance of the harbour, a pleasant and well-sheltered cove. At the foot of the hills are small vallies full of cottages and vineyards, intersected by gravel paths, and inclosed with hedges of arbutus, which, at this season of the year, are rendered particularly beautiful by the scarlet berries that almost cover the bushes. On the south side is a fine well under the rock, where ships send their boats to take-in water.

SECTION IV.

ON the twenty-fourth, the wind coming about to the northward, and the weather setting-in fine, we hoisted anchor and sailed, much against the will of our crew, who had promised themselves a pleasant trip on shore, to hear midnight mass, and make a Christmas supper. There does not exist a more dilatory race of mariners than the Provençals. If they were not prevented by supercargoes and passengers from indulging their loitering disposition, they would call at every port in their track, and waste time in each of them. The captains of these vessels eat out all their profits in harbour, and not one in a hundred dies worth a groat.

In the afternoon, we descried to the west the little island of Pianosa, the ancient Planasia, remarkable for the exile and death of Agrippa

Cæsar, the posthumous son of Marcus Agrippa and Julia. His indiscretion and rough behaviour furnished Livia with the means of ruining him in the opinion of his grandfather Augustus, who annulled his adoption, confiscated his estates, and sent him into this place of banishment. At the end of eight years, Augustus paid him a secret visit, which being made known to Livia, roused her fears lest Agrippa should be recalled, and appointed successor to the Imperial throne. To avert so fatal a blow to her hopes, she hastened the end of the superannuated Emperor, and sent a centurion to murder the exiled Prince. Agrippa, naturally intrepid and robust, made an obstinate resistance, though attacked unawares, and fell covered with wounds, the first victim of the bloody reign of Tiberius.

We soon after sailed between the mainland and the islands of Giglio and Giannuti *,

* Igillium & Dianium.

small granite rocks, covered with bushes and uninhabited.

The wind was now very fair, and we might have made much way, had not our captain been so terrified with an appearance of bad weather to windward, that he instantly put the helm about, and ran in towards the road of Telamon; but as soon as we perceived his intention, we obliged him to resume his original course, having learnt from one of the sailors, who was perfectly acquainted with the navigation of these seas, that if we reached that bay, and a storm came on, we should have the vexation of tossing about at anchor, in imminent danger, for several days, without a possibility of landing.

All these manœuvres took up a great deal of time, and made us lose the benefit of the breeze. During the next thirty hours, we were under the necessity of standing out to sea in a heavy swell, in order too keep clear of the Spiaggie Romane, a lee-shore, extending thirty-six leagues to the south, and extremely dangerous with a

wefterly or S. W. wind, as it is not difcernible at a diftance, and the fands are faid to reach out near feven leagues from the land.

We fteered a S. W. coaft from Giglio, with a very hard gale and terrible fea, for at leaft twenty-four leagues, a very unneceffary elbow. The night was fqually, the waves fhort and furious; our polacre rolled like a barrel, with fuch violent, uneven, and fudden fhocks, that it was impoffible to be prepared againft them. The confidence we had in the foundnefs of her timbers fupported our fpirits in fuch a tremendous fituation; but two alarming circumftances happened in the night, that would have startled older and bolder feamen than we were. Our horfes, that flood in ftalls upon deck, broke loofe, and were with difficulty fecured; our kitchen took fire, but we luckily extinguifhed the flames before they got a-head. The return of day-light afforded but a dreary profpect: a raging tumbling fea, a rolling fhip, fcarce able to carry any fail, and no land in fight. We
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passed twelve hours very unpleasantly, beating back in a S. E. direction for the coast of Italy ; and I think I never heard a sound more grateful to my ears, and relieving to my spirits, than the voice of the boy, who about sunset called out from the mast-head, that he saw Cape Circelli *. We were now past all danger from the Roman coast ; the wind was fallen, and though it was extremely cold, and snowed all night, the sight of land made us quite happy and reconciled to every inconvenience.

Before day-break, we were called up to behold the flames issuing out of Mount Vesuvius, a new and striking scene to us all. This welcome to Naples was doubly agreeable, as being unexpected ; for at this time of the year

* This is a high insulated mountain, at the southern extremity of the Pomptine Marshes, in the Ecclesiastical State, renowned in fable for having been the residence of the Enchantress Circé, who transformed men into brutes, and whose connections with Ulysses are described by Homer in the tenth and twelfth books of his Odyssey,

we did not imagine there would be an eruption. Snow and haziness soon deprived us of the view. It fell a dead calm off a cluster of islands, called, from the largest among them, the Ponza Isles. There is tolerable anchorage and a town at Ponza, which was a Roman colony, where Tiberius caused Nero, son of Germanicus, to be starved to death. The ashes of this unfortunate Prince were removed to Rome by his brother Caligula, who, not long after, banished his sisters Julia and Agrippina to the same spot. Among the writers of martyrology, Ponza is famous for the exile and death of Flavia Domitilla, a relation of Domitian, and one of the most distinguished profelytes of the infant church of Christ.

Most part of the day was spent in weathering Ventotiene, a small island at some distance E. of Ponza. It is a rock formed of vulcanical matter thrown up by fire, as the observations of Sir William Hamilton sufficiently demonstrate. The layers of its cliffs are tinged with very remarkable

able red and yellow streaks. The ancients called it Pandataria, and made use of it as a receptacle for criminals of an exalted rank. Julia, the daughter of Augustus, was confined here with her repudiated mother Scribonia, who, from mere maternal tenderness, followed her daughter to this desert, a voluntary exile. After ten years miserable existence on this rock of desolation, the unhappy Julia was removed to the coast of Rhegium, where she died of hunger.

Pandataria, which had been the prison of the wanton Julia, became, not many years after, the place of confinement allotted to her virtuous daughter Agrippina. The spotless reputation of this matron, joined to the memory of her injured husband Germanicus, had rendered her and her children objects of love and hope to the Roman people, and consequently of jealousy and hatred to Tiberius. To quiet his apprehensions, and crush at once all the expectations Rome might cherish of seeing better days, the tyrant caused the young Princes to be murdered,
and

and their mother to perish in Pandataria, through ill usage, and the want of every necessary of life. Caligula, her only surviving son, brought her ashes from the island, and deposited them with great solemnity in the Augustan Mausoleum.

At the instigation of Poppæa, Nero sent hither his wife Octavia, daughter of Claudius, and ordered her to be put to death, by opening her veins in a bath.

The destination of Ventotiene is at present somewhat similar to what it was in the time of the Cæsars ; for it is now inhabited by a considerable number of felons condemned to banishment on this rock, where they are forced to work and improve the scanty soil, in order to form a settlement that may prevent the corsairs of Barbary from rendezvousing here.

There was so little wind, that our pilot was afraid we should not get under the shelter of Procida before night, which would have been

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an unpleasant circumstance, as the wind might have risen again while we were at its mercy in the open sea, and driven us down to the coasts of Sicily or Sardinia: fortunately the breeze sufficed to carry us into the channel of Procida, where we came to an anchor. The night was still and mild, and we passed great part of it in contemplating Vesuvius, which we now distinguished very plainly. An immense river of blazing lava ran down the side, supplied by streams of red-hot matter vomited at intervals out of the summit of the mountain. The whole atmosphere was illumined, and a long train of light, reflected from it across the gulph upon the tremulous surface of the waves, was as beautiful, if not more so, than the real fiery torrent.

The twenty-eighth was a heavy damp day, and our sailors were so dispirited with the rain, which seems to be as contrary to their constitution as it is to that of the negroes, that it required the promise of an extraordinary recompence

pence to prevail upon them to hoist their anchor. We were the whole day in failing ten miles; the celebrated views of the gulf were hidden from our eyes by impenetrable fog and drizzling rain; Vefuvius alone sometimes reared his burning head above the clouds, and, to our great astonishment, was covered with snow to the very verge of the flaming tip of the cone. At ten at night we entered the port of Naples.

NAPLES,

NAPLES, and its ENVIRONS.

SECTION V.

THE unavoidable hurry upon our arrival prevented me from visiting Vesuvius while the eruption continued. As soon as I was at liberty, I hired a hackney two-wheeled chaise, called a *Caleffo*; which is no more than a very uneasy triangular seat, gilt and bedaubed with gaudy colours, fixed upon an axle-tree, and drawn by a single horse. Some of these horses sell very dear, and go at a prodigious rate, always in a high trot. The driver stands behind, and with the whip and voice directs the horse's motion. The hirer holds the reins; but is not responsible

responsible for any mischief the carriage may do, unless he also take possession of the lash. The reins are fastened to a cavesson, without a bit ; and the more the animal is pulled, the faster he goes : a hiss stops him.

One of these chairs conveyed me about eight miles from Naples, to the place where the lava ceased to run, after filling up a road, overturning some cottages, and consuming a wide tract of vineyards. The poplars, to which the vines were tied, were burnt or crushed beneath the weight of the cooler lumps that tumbled off on each side from the fiery mass. The surface of this black and now stagnant river is very uneven, full of points and protuberances, and broken into chasms. It answers the idea I have of a rocky mountain overturned into a valley, and shattered to pieces by an earthquake. In colour, the lava resembles slag, or the first clearings of an iron mine. The intense heat that still issued from it, though the flames were not visible by day-light, kept me at a distance.

By

By night, fire may be seen through the crevices of the dusky crust. It had run close to a lava of seventeen years date, which is not yet sufficiently triturated by the action of air to afford hold to the seeds of any plant, except a long hoary moss, commonly the first settler on these cinders, which are infinitely softer, and sooner crumbled to dust, than the *Sciarras* of *Ætna*.

After satisfying my curiosity with an attentive examination of these objects, I returned to Portici, hired a guide and mule, and rode up through the vineyards to the foot of the mountain, where vegetation terminates in a long coarse grass, the only plant that can bear the vicinity of the hot ashes and sulphureous exhalations. I ascended the steep cone of cinders in a direct line, up to the ancles at every step in purple lukewarm ashes. The heat was not very powerful till we came within a few yards of the summit, and there smoke breaks out through many crannies. On the Portici side there is very little lava, except a few scattered

stones that serve to rest upon. It is impossible to give a just idea of the fatigue of this climbing. Before that day I had mounted some very exalted points of the Alps, and clambered up the highest peak of the Pyrenees, without feeling such oppressive weariness and exhaustion of spirits and strength as I experienced on Vesuvius. Perhaps, the mephitic effluvium, which attacked my respiration, may also have had a debilitating effect upon my nerves and muscles. I should hardly have been able to proceed, had I not held by my guide, who went before with a handkerchief tied round his waist.

I confess I was a good deal disappointed on reaching the summit; for the descriptions I had read had raised in my imagination an expectation of every thing that could be glaring and striking in colours, pompous and tremendous in a scene of igneous phenomena; but the late eruption had, for a time, laid all the mountain's fury asleep, and every thing was dull and dark. The vent, by which the lava ran out,
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is much below the top of the mountain, and on that side the sulphureous steams are very pungent. I was on the point of returning rather frustrated of my hopes, when a curling column of smoke and flame rose slowly out of the gloomy abyss, and brought up with it a thick white cloud, that had hitherto rendered the crater impervious to my sight. The wind quickly caught hold of this column, and whirled it round the immense caldron several times with inconceivable noise and velocity, till it forced part of the smoke to fly off horizontally from the mountain, and dashed the remainder back into its original cavern. During this conflict, on the opposite side to that where we stood, I had a peep very far into the crater. The sides seemed all lava and scoria, with very little variety in the tints, closed at bottom by an impenetrable screen of smoke. I have seen old ruined coalpits, that afford a tolerable idea of this volcanic kettle. As soon as the smoke was driven away, the roaring below grew loud,

and frequent explosions were heard with a hollow sound; and at every throe, which caused a very considerable commotion in the thin arch on which we stood, a shower of red-hot stones was shot up; but, not rising many feet above the mountain, they did not come within the sweep of the wind, and so fell back perpendicularly into the rumbling gulph.

I shall not presume to investigate minutely the origin, composition, or operations, of the mountain, as we have ample information on this subject in the works of Sir William Hamilton. His knowledge of the volcano is so complete, and reputation on that head so firmly established at Naples, that more than once the court has waited to regulate its stay at Portici, or removal from thence, till he had declared, when he thought the eruption would begin, and what direction the lava was likely to follow. Many writers of dissertations on ignivomous mountains have been led into a labyrinth of mistakes, false positions,

fitions, and false consequences, by trusting solely to the relations of others, and not being at the pains of examining the phænomena with their own eyes. Whoever has not had the advantage of inspecting an active volcano, should not presume to write upon that subject, as he must unavoidably fall into error, in spite of all the learning, combinations, and sagacity, the wit of man is susceptible of. Indeed, some authors, who have had Vesuvius before their eyes for forty years, have likewise fallen into strange indefensible opinions concerning its component parts, original formation, and modes of operating. Attachment to system misleads us all, and frequently causes us to see things, not as they are, but as we wish to find them. Nothing but the desire of proving Vesuvius to be a primordial mountain, and not the produce of eruptions, could have brought Padre della Torre to believe, that he saw regular, original, calcareous, and granite strata, far down in the bowels of the mountain; where, if he saw any

thing, it was probably streaks of sulphureous and mineral efflorescences adhering to the coats of the funnel. Nothing but system could have so blinded Richard, as to prevent his finding a single pumice-stone, or other mark of fire, in the rocks of Posilipo, where any trivial observer may meet with innumerable black calcined stones, though he may not be sufficiently conversant in the subject to discover, that the whole rock owes its birth to workings of volcanic fires. Without prejudices of this kind, could other authors have seen nothing in Monte Somma, and the hills of Naples, but primitive substances, unaltered since the Deluge; when, in reality, every stone bespeaks a fiery origin?

To be convinced that Vesuvius has been raised from the level of the plains, or, more properly speaking, of the sea, by the sole action of fire contained in its bowels, requires, methinks, nothing but an eye accustomed to observe, and a sound judgement unbiaſſed by party.

party. I own I cannot entertain a doubt of it, after having considered the insulated position, and apparent composition of the mountain, together with the soil of all the adjacent country; after having reflected upon the birth of Monte Nuovo, thrown up to the perpendicular height of two hundred feet in the short space of forty-eight hours; and upon the apparition of many islands raised out of the bosom of the waters by submarine fires, of which both ancient and modern history afford examples. The island of Ascension, and many in the Archipelago, one of which rose out of the sea in 1707, completely prove this assertion. The origin of the isle of Rhodes, as related in Pindar's seventh Olympic, seems to be of the same class. This poet calls Rhodes a native of the floods, and tells us, "that ancient tales of men relate, that
 "when Jupiter and the gods divided the earth,
 "Rhodes was not visible amidst the marine
 "waves, but lay hid in the briny deep."
 Apollo, being absent, was left out of this par-

tition-treaty, and, on his appearance, Jupiter would have proceeded to a fresh division; but the God of Day declined the offer, contenting himself with dominions that did not interfere with any god's share: "for (says he) I behold
 " in the frothy sea a fruitful land rising from
 " the bottom." And accordingly, as he spoke,
 " Lo! the island shot up out of the waters*." It is easy to trace this fable to its source, the heav-

* Φανί δ' ἀνθρώπων παλαιά

ῥήσις, ἔπω ὅτε

Χθόνα δαίοντο Ζεύς τε καὶ ἀθάνατοι

Φανερὰν ἐν πλάγῃ

Ῥόδον ἔμμεν ποσσίνω.

Ἀλμυροῖς δ' ἐν βέθυσιν ἄσπον κικρύφθαι,

————— ἐπὶ πωλιᾷ,

Εἴπει, τιν' αὐτὸς ἑρᾷ ἔνδον θαλάσσης

Αὐξομένην πεδόθεν

Πολύβοσκον γαῖαν ἀνθρώ-

ποισι, καὶ εὐφρονα μάλοις.

Βλάττει μὲν ἐξ ἀλός ὑγρᾷς

Νᾶσος. —————

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ing up of the soil at the bottom of the sea by the vehemence of fire.

Whatever may have been the origin of Vesuvius, whether as a mountain it be coëval with the first-created protuberances of this globe, or whether it be an irregular production of ages subsequent to the creation, this we may safely affirm, that it has been a volcano beyond the reach of history or tradition. Long before it laid Herculaneum waste, it was described by authors as bearing the marks of fire on its summit. Some even say, the report of its having vomited flames went so far back into antiquity as to border upon fable. A most animated description of its ravages in 79 is left us by the younger Pliny, who was a woeful witness to all he relates. From that time, it now and then burst out, and alarmed the neighbouring country; but seemed by degrees to lose its vigour, till, in the lower ages, it scarce gave sufficient alarm to merit a place in the chronicles of the times. In 1631, it broke out again with accumulated

cumulated fury, and spread such devastation around, as almost equalled the horrors of the first year of Titus. Since that epocha, it has had its periods of turbulence and repose; and of late years it has so redoubled its violence, as to emit smoke continually, and every year, at least, a torrent of lava. Whence it draws its immense supplies of combustibles, and how long its present cone will be able to bear these unremitting efforts, exceeds the power of all human calculation. I believe, however, that with all its terrors, Vesuvius, open and active, is less hostile to Naples than it would be if its eruptions were to cease, and its struggles were to be confined to its bowels: then undoubtedly would ensue most fatal shocks to the unstable foundation of the Terra di Lavoro.

The day being clear, I made some stay on the top, to obtain a just idea of the topography of this curious country. There cannot be a more advantageous station for examining Naples and
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its environs, as Vesuvius stands single, at a distance from all other mountains, and commands the plains of Nola, Capua, and Sarno, the chain of the Apennines, the promontory of Sorrento, the hills and gulf of Naples, with all its islands. I observed, that the ridge extending westward from Poggio Reale to Monte Gauro, is entirely separated by the plains from every other eminence, and constitutes a vast detached promontory, full of lakes and hollows, the craters of extinct volcanos. On surveying those regions from this elevated pinnacle, it appeared to me, that, in times of the remotest antiquity, there may have existed an enormous flaming mountain, with its central point between Ischia and the Camaldoli, and that Solfatara, Astrum, Barbaro, &c. may be but the excrescences and *montagnuole* of one gigantic mass, which, after exhausting its force, and wearing out the surface, till it grew unable to support its own weight, may have sunk, and been overwhelmed by the waves. The gulf of Baia, and
the

the channels of Ischia and Procida, may have been formed by this cataclysm. The size of *Ætna* renders such an extent no objection to my hypothesis, and shews to what a monstrous bulk a mountain can swell itself. Monte Epomeo in Ischia, and the Camaldoli, are both abruptly broken down facing each other, and both slope off very gradually different ways, till one is lost in the Campi Leborini, and the other sinks into the sea.

N A P L E S.

S E C T I O N VI.

IN Christmas time, all quarters of Naples resound with *Pastorali* or *Siciliane*, a kind of simple rural music, executed by Abruzzese or Calabrian shepherds, upon a species of bagpipes, called in Abruzzo, Zampogna, and Ciaramelli in Calabria. The tunes vary according
to

to the provinces : in the south, they have three different airs ; the northern shepherds know only two, to which they add what variations the boldness of their own genius inspires. The boys learn of their fathers to play upon this instrument as the means of subsistence *. At other seasons, it is rare to hear any agreeable sounds in the streets of Naples, though it is the nursery of musical professors ; a school, where the greatest masters have imbibed their principles, and acquired that knowledge of composition, which has enchanted the ears of all Europe. There is no such thing as a national music, unless we give that name to a monotonous drawling seguidilla, that serves the nurses † as a lullaby to put their children to rest,

* The waits, still kept in the pay of some corporations in England, are counterparts of these shepherds.

† To second its narcotic influence, they administer to them copious doses of Venice treacle, of which such quantities are used, as render it a material article of importation. The Neapolitans have tears at command, and are very easily moved to shed them. Neither blows nor caresses can stop their children when once they begin to cry : they must roar till they are tired.

and

and seems borrowed from the Spaniards, who, I believe, learnt it of the Moors. I never resided in any Italian town where there was a less musical turn in the populace: few songs, guittars, vielles, or organs, enliven the evenings, as in the northern states of Italy, unless they be sent for to entertain the parties that in summer sup on the shore of Posilipo*.

They do not even dance to music, but perform the Tarantella to the beating of a kind of tambourine, which was in use among their ancestors, as appears by the pictures of Herculanæum. The Tarantella is a low dance, consisting of turns on the heel, much footing, and snapping of the fingers†. It seems the delight of their soul, and a constant holiday-diversion of the young women, who are, in general, far

* I have been told, that before the famine and calamities of 1764, the populace of Naples was more cheerful and musically inclined than at present.

† Persons of all ranks here dance very low, but mark the time as perfectly with their steps, as other nations do by springing from the ground.

from

from handsome, although they have fine eyes and striking features. Their hands and feet are clumsy, their shapes neglected, their necks flabby, and their skins discoloured by living so much in the sun without bonnets. Amongst them we may find almost every mode of hair-dressing seen on the Greek and Roman coins*.

The women are always fighting and scolding, but never resist their husband's authority, when he comes to separate the combatants, and carry home his disheveled spouse, who seems to stand as much in awe of her consort, as the Russian wives do of theirs, and suffers herself to be beaten by him with as little murmuring. I was

* The coiffure of the younger Faustina, with the coil of plaited hair upon the crown of the head, occurs frequently in the old town: that with the coil lower down, which may more properly be styled Lucilla's head-dress, is common among the younger part of the sex in the suburbs of Chiaia, and Plotina's among the women more advanced in years. I do not recollect to have seen any with the roll of tresses so high up as it appears on the head of Faustina the elder.

shewn

shewn a woman here, who, during the life of her first husband, was a pattern of modesty and evenness of temper to the whole parish; but, upon contracting a second marriage, surprized and scandalized the neighbourhood with her perpetual riots and obstreperousness. On being reprimanded for her behaviour by the curate, she very frankly acknowledged that her former husband understood the management of a wife, and used to check her intemperate bursts of passion by timely correction; but that her present helpmate was too mild to apply the proper chastisement which every wife requires more or less. Men seldom interfere in feminine brawls; and, if they do, generally content themselves with abusing, threatening, or shaking a cudgel or pitchfork at their antagonist, till the crowd comes in to part them. Sometimes a man is stabbed; but this is a rare event among the fishermen, the class of inhabitants I have had most constantly under my eye. Manners vary with the districts; in some they engage with bludgeons,

bludgeons, and those are the true lazaroni of Maffaniello; in others the attack is made with knives and other deadly weapons; but the Neapolitans are by no means so bloody and revengeful a people as they are represented by many travellers. It requires more than a slight provocation to lead them to extremities. During the prodigious hurry and confusion of the races in carnival, not the least tumult or quarrel was heard of; and in the cruel famine of 1764, the only act of violence committed by a hungry populace, increased to double its number by the concourse of peasants from the provinces, where all crops had failed, was to break open and pillage a single baker's shop. Can as much be said for the temper of the mobs at London and Edinburgh? Drunkenness is not a common vice at Naples, and therefore quarrels, its usual consequences, are rare; besides, the Neapolitan rabble allow each other a great latitude of abuse and scolding before they are wound up to a fighting pitch. It is also un-

common to see any thing in public like gallantry among the people ; no soldiers are met leading their doxies, or girls going about in quest of lovers ; all which are, in other countries, sources of riot and bloodshed. At Naples there is nothing but a mere nominal police ; yet burglaries are unknown, riots still more so, and the number of assassinations inconsiderable ; it bears no proportion to that of the murders committed in the distant provinces, where, I am credibly informed, no less than four thousand persons are killed annually. Most of these crimes are perpetrated with guns in the mountainous countries, where a great ferocity of character, and wildness of manners prevail, and where the inhabitants are more wandering, and less exposed to the pursuits of the law, which is indeed far from formidable in any part of the realm. It would require a prudent, inflexible, and long exertion of impartial criminal justice, to reduce to order the fierce untractable assassin of the mountainous regions of Calabria, who
being

being driven by the oppression of the barons and officers of the revenue to penury and despair, sets little value upon his life, and braves danger to the last drop of his blood. The execution, however cruel, of a few banditti, would strike but little terror into their associates, and produce no effect but that of ridding society of one or two bad members; nor will any measures of police ever prove effectual, unless government adopt, and pursue with steadiness, a system that may lessen the grievances of the poor, restrain the despotism of the petty tyrants, and, by providing the peasant with more means of supporting himself and family by honest labour, guard him against the temptation of taking up a lawless line of life. The case is different in the soft and fertile plains of the happy Campagna; there the well-timed prompt execution of a criminal, without allowing him any unnecessary respite to prepare for death, and without suffering priests to assemble round him, to excite the devotion, compassion, and

almost admiration of the crowd, would operate with great energy on the dastardly minds of the docile race that inhabits this charming climate ; the terror of active justice would prove a powerful check to murder and violent outrages.

At present, the forms of criminal jurisprudence are here so ill ordained, so multiplied and so complex, that if the king were to insist upon a villain, who was taken in the fact, being tried, and, if found guilty, hanged before the end of three days, the dispatch would almost kill the judges with fatigue ; for the trial and procedures would employ them eighteen hours out of each twenty-four. First, the accusation must be laid according to rule, and witnesses examined ; next, the council for the prisoner pleads a couple of hours ; then the advocate for the *fisco* replies during one hour ; and after him the advocate of the poor makes a rejoinder, which he has a right to spin out for two hours : this done, every one of the four judges harangues ; then all the notifications are made, examinations

tions

tions canvassed, proofs debated, and a thousand trifling formalities observed, which occasion such shameful, insurmountable delays, as eternize a criminal process. It happened lately, that, upon the final determination of the trial and condemnation of a malefactor, a messenger was sent to the jailor to bring the culprit into court in order to receive sentence; when, behold! the turnkey appeared, and made affidavit that the prisoner had died of a long fit of sickness the Christmas twelvemonth before. As the salary of a judge in Naples is only fifty ducats a month (£. 9. 7s. 6d.) he cannot afford to be honest or expeditious: but the case is still worse in the provinces, where the judges have but twenty-five ducats, and with that must keep a coach and proper household establishment. The scrivani, or commissaries, who have the department of warrants, arrests, and police, are allowed no pay, though they must keep thirty bailiffs apiece under them; so that they are naturally very active in taking up an offender,

where there is a probability of extorting any money out of him : when once in durance, the prisoner ceases to be an object of consideration to them, and therefore they take no pains to forward his trial, or bring him to justice : there are at this day above twelve thousand criminals rotting in the different prisons of the kingdom, whose maintenance costs the state above two hundred thousand ducats a year (thirty-seven thousand five hundred pounds).

The fishermen of Santa Lucia are the handsomest men in Naples ; they have the true old Grecian features, and such well-proportioned limbs, that they might serve for models in any academy of design : they are the most substantial and best lodged portion of the Neapolitan populace. It is true, as most writers assert, that the house-room of this metropolis is very inadequate to the population, which, according to authentic accounts, amounted, at the close of the year 1776, to three hundred and fifty thousand sixty-one souls ; and that numbers of
these

these are destitute of house and property. But it is not equally a fact, as they assert, that winter and summer these houseless inhabitants pass their lives in the open air, and sleep in all weathers in the streets. In summer it is very pleasant so to do; but in winter not even a dog could bear the inclemency of the weather, not so much on account of cold, as of wet. When the rainy season sets in, it commonly lasts several successive weeks, falling, not in such showers as we are acquainted with in England, where we have rain more or less every month in the year, but by pailfuls, an absolute water-spout, that carries all before it, and almost drowns the unfortunate passenger who is caught out of doors by the storm. The quantity of rain at Naples is much more considerable than that which falls on the same space of ground in England. Whole months of drought are compensated by the deluge of a day: and besides, the south winds are frequently so boisterous in winter, as to burst open the bolts of both doors

and windows. At that rainy time of the year, few are so wretched and helpless as to lie in the street, but most of the vagrants resort to the caves under Capodi Monte, where they sleep in crowds like sheep in a pinfold. As they are thus provided with a dwelling, for which no rent is exacted, they also procure food without the trouble of cooking or keeping house: the markets and principal streets are lined with sellers of macaroni, fried and boiled fish, puddings, cakes, and vegetables of all sorts; where, for a very small sum, which he may earn by a little labour, running of errands, or picking of pockets, the lazaro finds a ready meal at all hours: the flaggon hanging out at every corner invites him to quench his thirst with wine; or if he prefers water, as most of them do, there are stalls in all the thoroughfares, where lemonade and iced water are sold. The passion for iced water is so great and so general at Naples, that none but mere beggars will drink it in its natural state; and, I believe, a
scarcity

scarcity of bread would not be more severely felt than a failure of snow. It is brought in boats every morning from the mountains behind Castelmare, and is farmed out at a great rent: the Jesuits, who possessed a large capital, as well as the true spirit of enterprize, had purchased the exclusive privilege of supplying the city with it.

Very little suffices to clothe the lazaro, except on holidays; and then he is indeed tawdrily decked out, with laced jacket and flame-coloured stockings: his buckles are of enormous magnitude, and seem to be the prototype of those with which our present men of mode load their insteps. The women are also very splendid on those days of shew; but their hair is then bound up in tiffue caps and scarlet nets, a fashion much less becoming than their every day simple method. Citizens and lawyers are plain enough in their apparel; but the female part of their family vies with the first court ladies in expensive dress, and all the vanities

of

of modish fopperies. Luxury hath of late advanced with gigantic strides in Naples. Forty years ago, the Neapolitan ladies wore nets and ribbons on their heads, as the Spanish women do to this day, and not twenty of them were possessed of a cap: but hair plainly dressed is a mode now confined to the lowest order of inhabitants, and all distinction of dress between the wife of a nobleman and that of a citizen is entirely laid aside. Expence and extravagance are here in the extreme. The great families are oppressed with a load of debt; the working part of the community always spend the price of their labour before they receive it! and the citizen is reduced to great parsimony, and almost penury, in his housekeeping, in order to answer these demands of external show: short commons at home whet his appetite when invited out to dinner; and it is scarce credible what quantities of victuals he will devour. The nobility in general are well served, and live comfortably, but it is not their custom to admit strangers

to

to their table ; the number of poor dependents who dine with them, and cannot properly be introduced into company, prevents the great families from inviting foreigners : another reason may be, their sleeping after dinner in so regular a manner as to undress and go to bed : no ladies or gentlemen finish their toilet till the afternoon, on which account they dine at twelve or one o'clock. The great officers of state, and ministers, live in a different manner, and keep sumptuous tables, to which strangers and others have frequent invitations.

The establishment of a Neapolitan grandee's household is upon a very expensive plan ; the number of servants, carriages, and horses, would suffice for a sovereign prince ; and the wardrobe of their wives is formed upon the same magnificent scale ; yet it is a fixed rule, that all ladies whatever, be the circumstances of their husbands affluent or circumscribed, have an hundred ducats a month, and no more, allowed them for pin-money. At the birth of every child,

child, the husband makes his wife a present of an hundred ounces, and some valuable trinkets, according to his fortune. Marriage portions are not very great in general ; it does not cost a nobleman more to marry a daughter than it does to make her a nun ; for a thousand pounds will not defray the expence of the ceremonies at her reception and profession : she must have a pension settled upon her, and reserves, besides, a power over her inheritance, in case she shall arrive at any dignity in the convent, and wish to enrich it with buildings, plate, or vestments.

Servants and artificers of the city give from fifty to an hundred ducats with their daughters ; peasants and country workmen go as far as three hundred. Females at and near Naples are esteemed helpless and indolent, and therefore have always twice or thrice as much fortune as their brothers, who have greater resources in their strength and activity. A girl would scarce get a husband, if her lover did not expect to
be

be reimbursed by her portion the sum he paid away with his own sisters. In the plains, it is customary for a peasant, on the birth of a daughter, to plant a row of poplar trees, which are cut down and sold at the end of seventeen years, to make up a fortune for her. The proverbial benediction of *Figlij maschi*, Male children, which a Neapolitan gives a woman when she sneezes, is founded on the great facility with which the common people provide for their sons: as soon as they can run about they are able to earn their bread, while their sisters remain idle at home, or beg till they are old enough to attract the notice of the men.

SECTION

SECTION VII.

THIS kingdom consists of twelve provinces, of which the superficies measures fourteen millions five hundred and eight thousand nine hundred and seventy-three moggie. In two thousand and fixty-seven cities, towns, villages, or hamlets, it contains about four millions five hundred thousand inhabitants; which is not more than half the population that so fertile a country might support. A duty is levied upon landed property, partly by a land-tax, and partly by impositions on consumption, taxes for roads, bridges, repairs, and other public exigencies; in the perception of which infinite abuses are committed*.

* In some parts of the kingdom an assessment is made by the king's officers, and those parts are governed by gabella. Others are upon a freer footing, and regulated by a catasto; this is a register kept in each district, or università, wherein are marked the incomes of all the inhabitants, who are taxed in proportion to the number of ounces they possess, towards completing the sum demanded of the district by the king. This ounce contains three carlini. A fuoco implies a family, or five persons.

Upon

Upon a calculation of ten years, the average quantity of wheat sown in the kingdom amounts to little more than two millions five hundred thousand tomoli; a tomolo is a sufficient quantity for a moggia. Six hundred and twenty-five thousand moggie are sown with barley and lent grain; and two hundred and fifty thousand with Indian corn and pulse; but it is supposed by good judges, that one million seven hundred and fixty-four thousand five hundred and eighteen moggie more might be sown with wheat, five hundred and eighty-four thousand and eighty-one moggie with barley, oats, and other lenten corn, and with pulse and Indian corn, one hundred and twelve thousand seven hundred and twenty-four moggie, or thereabouts.

The usual produce of wheat, on an average of the last ten years, comes to about twenty-two millions tomoli, reckoning it about eight tomoli per moggia per annum between the more and less fertile lands.

For

Tomoli.

For feed there go	—	2,500,000
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For the consumption of the inhabitants, in number 4,487,628, at five tomoli a head,		22,438,140
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 24,938,140

But four tomoli a head being a juster calculation, because in several provinces the common people live upon bread made of Turkey wheat, barley, chestnuts, &c. the necessary consumption in wheat ought to be stated only at

17,950,512

Add for feed		2,500,000
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 20,450,512

Consequently there remain for exportation, one year with another, about one million and a half of tomoli.

In some grounds, where beans and Indian corn have been gathered, it is usual to sow wheat the same year; and those lands are called Maggifi. It is thought that four millions of

Moggi

Moggi are fit for the reception of wheat; but two thirds of them are not sown, through the bad œconomy of government, impositions, vexations, &c. In the territory of Foggia, part of Puglia, there is reckoned to be an extent of one hundred and fifty thousand versure proper for corn; each versura will take three and a half tomoli of wheat to sow, or four and a half tomoli of barley. However, till the year 1767, no more was ever sown than fifty-three thousand versure, not even in 1764, at the time of the famine, though, in order to secure an ample supply for the next year, the tenants threw upon the lands more seed-corn than usual, and exerted themselves to the utmost of their abilities. Abuses in administration, and rapacity in the tax-gatherers, defeat all schemes of improvement in husbandry. In 1767, one hundred and eleven thousand versure were sown in the territory of Foggia. If the three million moggie of land fit for the plough, more than the quantity actually in tillage, were sown with

corn, the kingdom might probably produce thirty-two millions tomoli of wheat, instead of twenty-two millions; and the exportation of grain might then be always kept open without danger, and to the great advantage of the cultivators.

It is calculated that the culture of corn employs ten persons, that of the vine at least twenty.

The chief exportation of corn is made from the provinces of Capitanata, Bari, Otranto, Abruzzo, Molise, Calabria, and Basilicata: they supply the internal consumption of the kingdom and foreign markets. The product of the Terra di Lavoro, and Salerno, is reserved for the use of the capital.

The exports of the kingdom of Naples are, wheat, barley, legumes, Indian corn; hemp, line, cummin, fennel, and anniseeds; wool, oil, wine, cheese, fish, salt flesh, honey, wax, fresh and dry fruit, manna, saffron, liquorice, feccia bruciata, gums, locust beans, capers, lupins,
paste,

paste, macaroni of various sorts, salt, potash, brimstone, nitre, argal, pitch, tar, fumach, skins, cattle, oranges, lemons, brandy, vinegar, metals, minerals, marble, silk, hemp, flax, cottons, and divers sorts of manufactures. All these products might be sent out in very great quantities, if proper encouragement were given; and both horses and cattle might become valuable articles of exportation if the breed were attended to.

The provinces most abundant in oil are, Bari, Otranto, Calabria, and Abruzzo. The product, upon ten years average, has been esteemed at six hundred thousand salme. The consumption of the whole kingdom, including the capital, rarely exceeds three hundred thousand salme; yet the exportation of late years has seldom amounted to forty thousand salme, except in the year 1767, when it was greater, on account of the general failure of olives throughout Spain.

The city of Naples consumes annually thirty-seven thousand five hundred salme of clear oils, and about three thousand of dirty oils.

The duties upon a falm of oil exported from Gallipoli or Taranto are,

	Duc. Gr.
For the treasury,	1 0
Farm of oil and soap, called Arrendamento,	3 30
Customhouses of Puglia, for extraction,	0 75
The customhouse's valuation of said oil in the ports should be D. 12 per falm, on which should be paid at the rate of 67 G. per ounce of D. 6, which comes to	1 34

D. 6 39

But this varies, and is now got up to near D. 8 per falm. Oil imported into Naples bears a duty of D. 1 32½ per falm.

The high excise and farm upon brandies prevents the distillation of that commodity from the immense quantity of wines that are produced. Most of these wines would bear long sea voyages, if the proprietors could afford the expence of good brandy to mix with them.

From

From the high duties a small exportation only takes place of coarse wines for Holland; and of the Greek wine of Vesuvius for other places.

The produce of silk in the kingdom is computed at about eight hundred thousand pounds weight annually, of which half is supposed to be worked at home, and the other half exported raw. Double the quantity might be fold unwrought, and double might be manufactured, were it not prevented by the high duties on exportation, and on importation into the capital, together with the tyranny and exactions of the excise officers of the provinces.

The exportation of thrown silk, upon an average of many years, amounts to one hundred and forty-eight thousand two hundred and seventeen pounds.

The exportation of raw silk from the Calabrias, through the custom-house, is about fifty-three thousand pounds; but perhaps double that quantity is smuggled to Leghorn and other parts.

Among the many vexations and impositions on raw filk produced in the kingdom, may be reckoned the unjust proceedings of the deputies of the royal farms, and administrators of the excise, who, as soon as the filk is drawn off by the poor people from the pods, out of the caldron, weigh it, and note down the weight in a book. When the filk is fold, they oblige the vender to pay the duty upon the said weight, though the filk was heavy with water, on a cruel supposition that they have smuggled the difference; so that the poor creatures actually pay duty for a portion of water.

A gabel of a grain a pound is even laid upon the refuse pods, which formerly were untaxed. The duties upon filk in Calabria come to forty-two and a half grains per pound, including seven grains per pound for a duty called di Bisignano. That of the Terra di Lavoro, Basilicata, Salerno, and Abruzzo, is forty-one grains per pound: but then there is another duty of twelve grains and seven-tenths per pound

pound on the exportation of raw silk less ten per cent. for package, and about ten grains for thrown silk less twenty per cent. for package, and five per cent. for wet.

No small quantity of cotton is gathered in the Terra di Bari, and the districts of the cities of Turfi and Gravina; but the best is in the province of Lecce. Venice takes off a good deal annually, as also of the wool.

Almonds abound in the territories of Bari, Lecce, and the Abruzzi; but the best come from Bari, where they are exported to Venice and Trieste. A duty of three ducats ninety-four grains per canto ruins this trade.

In Calabria there are natural mountains of salt, stronger and more active than sea-salt; but the mines are shut up, not to hurt the revenue, which reaps great benefit by the high duties upon that article. At Naples the gabel is almost five times more than the first cost of the commodity in Sicily.

All manufactures sent from the capital into the provinces, and all that are exported out of

the kingdom (though the first species with which they were fabricated had already paid the customhouse duties) are nevertheless liable to a charge of sixteen to twenty per cent. called Miglioria. Nothing is excepted but sweetmeats and chocolate.

The duties levied upon the Miglioria or Minutillo, amount annually to seventy-four thousand nine hundred and nine ducats, of which fourteen thousand belong to the city of Naples, upon the imposition of twenty-three grains per ounce, and the rest goes into the customhouse, paid upon manufactures.

Consumption of corn in the city of Naples.

	Tomoli.
In bread for the publick,	400,000
Maccaroni,	160,000
Taralli, or little biscuits,	50,000
Meal at the great market,	300,000
Meal at twelve other stalls in the city,	300,000
Fine flour, 95,000 cantara,	300,000
For the land and sea troops,	120,000
Charity-schools and convents,	1,200,000
Per annum,	2,830,000

Horned cattle,	25,000
Sorrento calves,	3,000
Hogs, between the market and other places,	45,000

Eggs from the neighbourhood, besides
what are produced in the city, 60,000
per diem.

Oil, stars of ten and one-third rotoli
each, 600,000

There is in the kingdom of Naples a fund of more than fifty millions of ducats belonging to the exchequer, duties, and other public effects. It ought to be converted into a public bank, bearing proper interest; but, instead thereof, the produce is in a great measure absorbed by the salaries and peculation of the subaltern financiers, to the great disadvantage of the public.

According to the best-authenticated accounts, the current coin of the kingdom of Naples, in gold, silver, and brass, is between eight and nine millions of ducats; which is not sufficient
for

for the circulation of a very extensive commerce: for although the notes of seven public banks, established in the city of Naples, circulate even down to the value of the smallest sums, yet the equivalent is paid into these banks by the proprietors, or by creditors, in money, as into bankers hands in London, without any allowance of interest: and therefore this mode of payment only serves for the readier dispatch of business, and saving of some trouble, but does not increase the circulation; nor is there any paper issued out that bears a premium.

All bills of exchange, court transactions, civil, military, ecclesiastical, and mercantile payments, are made either by bank-bills, called *fedi de credito*, or by drafts on the said banks, explaining the causes at length of the said payments; for which reason no receipts are taken. The person who is in possession of a bank-bill or draft, is in rigour obliged to pass it as his own in the space of twenty-four hours; otherwise,

wife, should the bank fail, the holder of the bank-bill has no redress against the person who paid it him. In this century there has been an instance of the failure of a bank, viz. that of L'Annunziata. There is a law still existing, though not enforced, which declares, that no payment above six ducats shall be valid, unless made by one of the banks. These banks are at present seven in number, viz. S. Giacomo, S. Eligio, S. Salvatore, Poveri, Pieta, Spirito Santo, and Popolo. They serve as public depositories of money: more or less they all take in pawns to an immense value, at stated interests, and lend money also upon proper security of lands, houses, &c.

There is a company of assurance, with a *jus privatum*, which is contrary to the interest of commerce. The profits of this association, in the first ten years after its institution, were upwards of ten per cent. and at the end of the next five years, in 1766, rose to twenty per cent. It would therefore be an advantage for
the

the state if the number of insurance-offices were increased, as the gains on the whole, though divided, would increase also. The risk begins from the moment the goods are put on board, and continues till the arrival of the ship, and her total discharge of the goods, which is a good custom for the insured.

MERCHANDISE imported into NAPLES.

From England—Woollen goods of all sorts, filk and worsted stockings, hats, tanned hides, lead, tin, pepper, hardware, linens, handkerchiefs, fans, canes, gums, dying woods, drugs, watches, clocks, mathematical instruments, household furniture, salt cod, pilchards, herrings, coffee, tea, cocoa, sugar, and occasionally calicoes and East India goods.

Holland—Cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg, pepper, medicinal drugs from the East and West Indies, fine cloths, particularly the black, called Segovia, linen for shirts and other uses, muslins, chintz,

chintz, callicoes, several sorts of cocoa, whalebone, tobacco, filk stuffs, and velvet.

France—An immense quantity of sugar, indigo, coffee, dying-woods, verdigrease, Levant drugs, cocoa, hardware, filk stuffs, gold and silver, says of Le Mans, du roy, cloths of Elbeuf, and all sorts of women's apparel.

Spain—Sugar, cochineal, dying woods, cocoa, hides salted and in the hair, medicinal American drugs, Jesuits bark, falsapariglia, jalap, balsam of Peru, hippecacuana, cloths of divers sorts, wine, tobacco, snuff of Seville and Havana, lead, gun-barrels, honey, &c.

Portugal—Brazil sugars, tobacco, cocoa of Maringan, drugs, hides, &c.

Venice—Books, cordavans, looking-glasses, chrystals and glasses of all sorts, lustres, coach and window glasses, Padua cloths, called Venetian says, for the consumption of the provinces, fine Verona cloths, equal to English scarlet, stockings, caps made of wool, fine hats used in the provinces, wax candles, white loaf
sugar,

fugar, fine linen, medicinal and Levant drugs, all sorts of paints, sublimate, cinnabar, quicksilver, turpentine, dragon's blood, copper, iron of divers sorts of the manufactures of Germany and Brescia, excellent paper, much used in the provinces.

Genoa—American goods from the Spanish main and the Portuguese East Indies, velvets, iron in great quantity, nails, ordinary hats, wax from Tunis and the African coast.

Leghorn—All sorts of goods, at second hand, from the Levant, Barbary wools, linens of Egypt, wax, and many silk manufactures.

Peterburg—Hides, wax, iron, furs, &c.

Sardinia—An immense quantity of tunny fish, and white cheese.

Germany—Silesia linens of all sorts, white and painted, iron of divers manufactures, vitriol of Hungary, crystals of Bohemia, large glasses for coaches and windows, hats and goods of the new Vienna fabrick, turpentine, quicksilver, hardware, manufactures of Osna-
burg

burg and Nuremberg, copper, tin plates, boards, cloth, &c.

The duties in general upon goods imported into the city of Naples amount to about twenty-five per cent. upon the customhouse estimation, paying so much per ounce *ad valorem*; which ounce is regulated at fix ducats value. Sugars and wax, by the new impositions, pay forty or fifty per cent. upon the market price. The duty upon sugar produces about eighty thousand ducats annually.

SECTION VIII.

March } **H**AVING received an invitation
26th. } to be present at the opening of
 some lately-discovered rooms at Stabia, I went
 thither with a party. On our way we visited
 Herculaneum and Pompeii*. We then tra-

* I shall reserve for the third volume what I have to say concerning them.

versed the rich plain that lies between Vesuvius and the Sorrentine branch of the Appennines, and came by a gentle ascent to the excavations. Stabia was a long string of country houses, rather than a town; for it had been destroyed by Sylla, and before the reign of Titus, all its rebuilt edifices were overturned by an earthquake. In the catastrophe of seventy-nine, the wind blowing furiously from the north, brought the ashes of Vesuvius upon it; all the country was covered with cinders and rapilli, or small pumice-stones, many yards deep. Towns, houses, and trees, were buried, and their situations remained marked in the plain by hillocks like barrows. Stabia, though six miles from the mountain, was overwhelmed and lost, till it was casually discovered about twenty-eight years ago. The earthquake had so damaged the buildings, that none of them can be preserved; and therefore, as soon as every thing curious is taken out, the pits are filled up again. The ashes penetrated into
all

all parts, and consumed every thing that was combustible.

On our arrival, the workmen began to break into the subterraneous rooms, and, as the soil is all a crumbling cinder, very little labour was requisite to clear them. When opened, the apartments presented us with the shattered walls, daubed rather than painted with gaudy colours in compartments, and some birds and animals in the cornices, but in a coarse style, as indeed are all the paintings of Stabia. In a corner, we found the brass hinges and lock of a trunk; near them, part of the contents, viz. ivory flutes in pieces, some coins, brass rings, scales, steel-yards, and a very elegant silver statue of Bacchus, about two inches high, represented with a crown of vine leaves, buskins, and the horn of plenty.

The brow of this hill affords a rich and varied prospect towards Vesuvius and the gulf.

The company returned to Naples; but I remained all night at Torre della Nunziata, a

large village belonging to the princes of Valle and Dentici, and a hospital. It was of little note while the high road from Naples passed between Vesuvius and Nola, the communication by land along the shore being impeded by repeated eruptions. All that tract was for many ages one dark forest, successively consumed by fiery torrents, and springing up again upon the old cooled lavas. As soon as a road was opened over Herculaneum, the Torre became populous. A manufacture of fire-arms was established here by the present King of Spain, who attempted to introduce several others into the kingdom; but every branch that required nicety, patience, and fine touches, failed: that of arms succeeded wonderfully; and, in three years, the German artificers, he had sent for to instruct his subjects, returned to their own country: for their pupils were become as skilful as themselves.

Early next morning, I hired a fix-oared barge, and rowed along the coast. We passed before the island of Revigliano, a fine object, that has
been

been introduced into many pictures. My first station was Castelmare di Stabia, a long town lying at the bottom of the bay, sheltered to the south by high mountains, that come so near the water edge, as to leave only a very narrow slip for the buildings, many of which are boldly and beautifully placed on the lower points of the hills. The King has a charming villa above the city, formerly a farm of the Jesuits. The port is small and entirely artificial, more frequented by Latin sail-barks than ships. This place rose by the ruin of the inland towns. In 1654, the French, under the Duke of Guise, took it by storm, and meant to push their conquests from hence into the heart of the kingdom. Their hopes were soon blasted by a defeat on the banks of the Sarno, which obliged them to reembark, and abandon even Castelmare, but not before they had stripped it of every thing valuable. I continued my course westward under a bold shore : new beauties of landscape opened upon me at the doubling of every promontory. The

first change of scene was to an uninhabited forest, where white cliffs rise perpendicular out of the deep blue waters : behind them, lofty mountains overgrown with wood. These rocks are calcareous, and furnish Naples with lime. The stones are burnt in the creeks, and the fire supplied with faggots cut in the hills, and slung down on ropes. Along the shore are many strong sulphureous springs.

Vico was my next stage : a little city, in a delightful position, on the brow of a hill, backed by an amphitheatre of mountains. The frata of these eminences incline contrary ways to one central point, as if there had originally existed a similar mass in the centre, torn asunder and swallowed up by one of those shocks, which must have often overturned this unstable country. Charles the Second and Joan the First raised Vico out of obscurity, on account of the charms they found in its situation.

On doubling the next projecting rocks, we entered the spacious bay of Sorrento, three miles

miles wide. A femicircular chain of woody mountains incloses a rich and beautiful plain, rather sloping towards the sea, full of white buildings peeping out of the groves. This half-moon terminates in a straight line to the sea, by a bold coast of black perpendicular rocks. It probably formed a portion of a circle, half of which broke off and sunk into the waves. This I believe to have been the case, and that the whole was once the crater of a volcano. All the soil of the plain is cineritious, and its rocks a strong blue lava, except near the east end, where they are of a softer piperino kind. The encircling mountains are composed of regular calcareous layers, that do not join or intermix in the least with the others, but are broken off abruptly all round, as if a place had been scooped out for the reception of the heterogeneous mass, rising suddenly out of the bosom of the earth or waters. Many of these limestone rocks are twisted, as it were, into ropes, exactly in the same manner as some

Vesuvian lavas : they have besides so many peculiarities, that correspond with those of the productions of burning mountains, that were it not directly repugnant to the common systems of philosophy, which decide all calcareous substances to be a sediment of the ocean, I should be tempted to believe, that fire had a greater share in the formation of these rocks than is generally allowed. The materials of the lower grounds are beyond doubt volcanical ; however, I am confident that, as yet, we are but imperfectly acquainted with the powers of fire, and the metamorphoses it is capable of producing. As we have discovered, that the fumes of sulphur and vitriol can change hard black lava into soft white clay, perhaps we may find out, that some other operation of natural chemistry can convert substances into limestone.

I landed at Sorrento, a city placed on the very brink of the steep rocks that overhang the bay, in a most enchanting situation. It contains fifteen thousand inhabitants, half the population

tion of the whole plain. The streets are narrow; but this is no inconvenience in a warm climate, where carriages are not used, nor any communication with the metropolis practicable by land. Of all the places in the kingdom, this is blest with the most delightful climate. It was renowned for it, in ancient times: Silius Italicus extols its soft and wholesome zephyrs *. At present, it enjoys shady groves, excellent water, fruit, fish, milk, butter, the finest veal in the world, good wine, and almost every necessary of life at an easy rate. Mountains screen it from the hot autumnal blasts. The temper of the inhabitants is said to resemble the climate in mildness. A few inscriptions and reservoirs of water are all the remnants of antiquity it can shew. It derives its name from the residence or worship of the Syrens †. In this bay, the Prince of Salerno, son to Charles the First, was, in 1283,

* Zephyro Surrentum molle salubri.

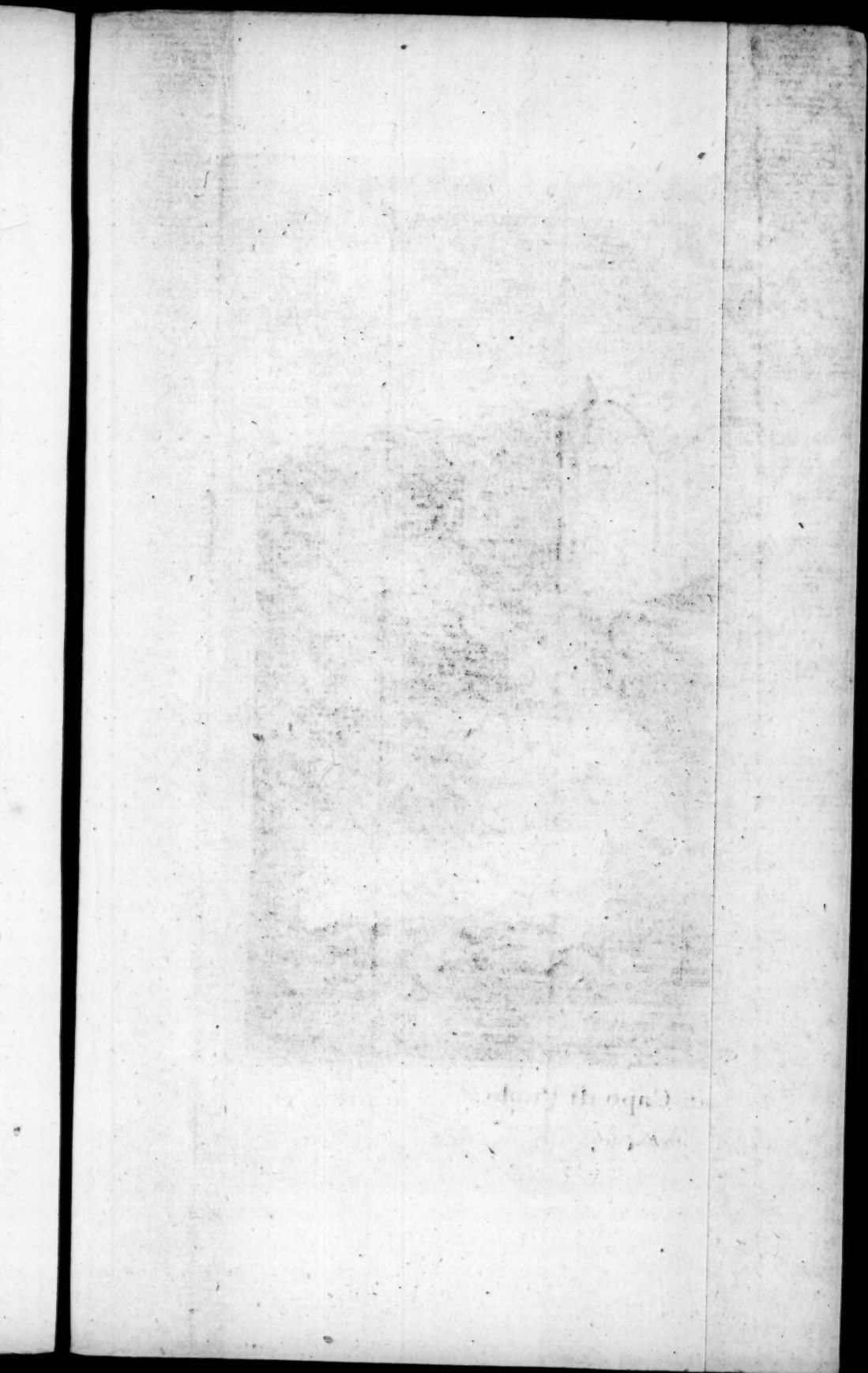
† Surenentum.

taken prisoner by Lauria, the admiral of Peter of Aragon, a naval victory that insured the possession of Sicily to the conquerors. Here Torquatus Tasso drew his first breath in 1544: a bard undoubtedly intitled to rank in the foremost line of modern poets, notwithstanding the sarcasm of Boileau *, who, from his ignorance of the Italian language, and the coldness of his heart, was a very improper judge of the flights of genius. In 1558, the Turks sacked this city, and carried off twelve thousand captives; but, preferring money to such a quantity of slaves, they sent to Naples to ask a ransom. Distrust, consternation, or insensibility, caused their offer to be rejected, and the infidels sailed away with their prisoners. Soon after, by an act of generosity scarcely to be paralleled in any history, the remaining Sorrentines sold their lands and goods, and redeemed

* Le clinquant du Tasse à tout l'or de Virgile.

Prefers Tasso's tinsel to Virgil's gold.

their





Ruins of the Surrentinum, or Villa of POLLIUS at Capo di Puolo.

Alta Dicarchei speculatrix villa profundi. Statius Syl.

their fellow-citizens. Had such an effort been made by Greeks or Romans, it would have been a common-place example for school-boys, and every dissertator, ancient and modern, would have enlarged with enthusiasm on this trait of heroism; but at Sorrento it is scarcely remembered, and, I believe, it is entirely forgotten in the rest of the kingdom.

On the twenty-eighth, I continued my coasting voyage to Capo di Terra, or Puolo, the point that divides the bay of Sorrento from that of Massa*. Here are the ruins of a villa mentioned in Statius's *Sylvæ*: it belonged to Pollius Fælix, whose name is still preserved in the modern appellation. I admired the exactness with which the poet has described the spot; for however altered and disfigured the minuter features may be, the great outlines of the place are still discernible. On the very

* Est inter notos Syrenum nomine muros,
Saxaque Tyrrhenæ templis ornata Minervæ.

extremity of the Cape, impending over the sea, stands a row of vaulted chambers, before which appear the vestiges of a portico*, or hall. Its form is that of an obtuse angle. These rooms commanded a double view; one of Sorrento and Vesuvius; the † other, of Naples ‡, Puzzoli, and Ischia §. Part of the painting remains upon the walls. Behind these buildings, the promontory narrows into an isthmus, pierced in the middle with a deep round basin, into which the sea has access by a passage under the rocks. As the waves have no force left when they enter it, and its opening is surrounded by ruins, this was no doubt the situation of the

* *Per obliquas erepit porticus arces*
Urbis opus, longoque domat saxa aspera dorso.

† *Una Diætis*
Parthenopen directo limite ponti.

‡ *Ingerit*
Celsa Dicarchæi speculatrix villa profundi.

§ *Hæc videt Inarimen, illi Prochyta aspera pariet.*

baths,

baths *. Three arched conduits brought fresh water to them † from a large reservoir at the foot of the mountain ; high rocks, covered with olive-trees, defend ‡ this place from the boisterous scirocco, and boats find a safe retreat in a circular creek, which divides the cape into two peninsulas §. From hence I sailed along the woody coast of Massa, a diocese without a town ; for all the dwelling-houses are dispersed in small clusters along the verdant declivity. We lay upon our oars a few hours

* *Gemina testudine fumant
Balnea.*

† *E terris occurrit dulcis amaro
Nympha mari.*

‡ *Monti intervenit imum
Littus et in terras scopulis pendentibus exit.*

§ *Placido lunata recessu,
Hinc atque hinc curvas prorumpunt æquora rupes—
Ponunt hic lassæ furorem
Æquora.*

*Nulloque tumultu
Stagna modesta jacent.*

to

to take some refreshment, and then sailed to Naples, where we arrived by moonlight. The evening was warm and mild, and the sea smooth as glass; the lights of the fish-markets reflected on its surface, formed a most splendid illumination.

JOUR.

J O U R N E Y

FROM

NAPLES to TARANTO.

SECTION IX.

ON the twelfth of April 1777, I set out with S. T. G. from Naples by the Porta Capuana. We rode our own horses, but had a chaise to carry our baggage and ourselves occasionally. A broad avenue of poplars renders this outlet more regular than any other. On the left hand are the aqueducts that convey water to the city, and supply several fountains erected

erected by the Viceroys, in the last century, for ornament and the relief of travellers. Above is a beautiful ridge of woody hills, called Il Campo di Lautrec, from Odet de Foix, Maréchal de Lautrec, who, in 1528, at the head of the French army, invaded the kingdom of Naples, subdued the northern provinces, and drove the Imperialists into the capital. On the twenty-ninth of April, he pitched his camp on this eminence, and by his approach threw the Neapolitans into the utmost consternation. Their terrors redoubled on the failure of their usual miracle, the liquefaction of the blood of St. Januarius; a disappointment, in their opinion, the certain forerunner of some weighty calamity. The horrors of famine soon began to be severely felt in so populous a town, and the distress was enhanced by the enemy's breaking down the aqueducts; but what was intended for its ruin proved its salvation, and the contrivance turned against the besiegers: for the waters, thus diverted from their channel, and obstructed

obstructed in their passage, ran waste over the low grounds, stagnated in pools, and, through the excessive heat of the season, corrupted. The putrefaction was accelerated by the fermentation of a great quantity of corn, which Virticillo, a famous outlaw, purposely threw into the ditches as he passed along with a supply of provisions for the city. From the malignant vapours exhaled by these putrid swamps, a pestilential disease arose, which, in a short time, destroyed the greatest part of the French army, and, on the fifteenth of August, died their brave commander. His remains were interred under his own tent, the siege was raised, most of the French that survived the contagion were taken or put to the sword, and few escaped to carry an account of the catastrophe to their own country.

The superstitious Italians looked upon this destruction of the French as a punishment inflicted by Heaven and announced by the obduracy of the blood of St. Januarius, for their having been the means some years before of spreading

spreading a most loathsome and cruel disease over the face of Europe. This tremendous scourge of debauchery is supposed to have been imported by the companions of Christopher Columbus from the Caribbee islands, where it was an aboriginal malady ; they introduced it into Naples, where, in 1495, the troops of Charles the VIIIth, King of France, received the infection, and in their return communicated the infernal poison to all the countries they passed through. But authors differ in their opinions concerning the introduction of this disorder : some incline to give it an Eastern or Egyptian, not an American origin, and ground their notion upon the inscription of a tomb in the church of S. Maria del Popolo at Rome *. This monument is erected to the memory of a noble Roman, who died *peste inguinaria* in 1485,

* Marco Antonii equitis Romani filio ex nobili Albertorum familia corpore animoque insigni, qui annum agens xxx peste inguinaria interiit an. salutis Christianæ MCCCCLXXXV. die xxii Julii hæredes B. M. P.

which

which is fix years before Columbus's return from the New World. The difficulty lies in proving this *pestis inguinaria* to be really the disease in question, and not a plague that had its ulcer in the groin, as others have theirs under the arm, in the side, or elsewhere; for it is an observation made by many medical practitioners in the Levant, that each plague throws out its mortal tumour in one particular part of the body upon all patients. If this sentiment of the *lues* coming from the East were incontrovertible, it would follow, that to all the accumulated horrors of tyranny, rapine, and murder, exercised by the Europeans upon the innocent Americans, we might add the introduction of a fatal and loathsome disease, which completed the desolation of that continent, by destroying the few wretches their sword had spared.

On the declivity stands the church of Santa Maria del Pianto, or of Tears, erected over the mouth of some deep excavations, where the bodies of many thousand persons, carried off by

a plague in 1656, were brought in carts from Naples, and walled up. This pestilence far exceeded in devastation that of 1528; for, in the space of six months, it dispatched 400,000 people in the kingdom of Naples, although the provinces of Farther Calabria and Otranto escaped the infection.

An avenue of cypresses, sloping up the hill, gloomily points out the Campo Santo, or Cemetery of the Hospital for Incurables. It stands loftily, and remote from all habitations of the living, and is most admirably contrived for its melancholy purposes. Divine service is performed under a spacious portico at the entrance, and a high wall incloses a flagged court, about two hundred and sixty feet square. Under it are three hundred and sixty-five very deep vaults hewn in the rock, one of which is in its turn opened each day of the year, to receive the bodies of such as died the preceding evening in the hospital. The first tenants of this repository were the wretches who perished in the great
famine

famine in 1764. The tufa, of which the rocks of all these hills are composed, has a most powerful drying quality, and soon parches up the corpses that are consigned to its bosom.

At the distance of one mile from Naples, we passed by the ruins of Poggio Reale, a villa built by Alphonfus the Second, while Duke of Calabria. He caused to be painted in the apartments the principal occurrences of his father's reign, and took great delight in embellishing this palace, which, nevertheless, does not appear to have been possessed of any natural beauties worth cherishing. It was vilely situated at the foot of the hills, on the very edge of the marshes that lie between Naples and Vesuvius. The waters of the Sebeto, an insignificant brook, dignified with the title of river, make these lands extremely fruitful, and proper for kitchen-stuff; but in summer aguish, and dangerous to inhabit. In ancient times it may have been more considerable, and received many supplies, which the eruptions of Vesuvius have

dried up or turned off; but its size has long been very trifling. Boccaccio, who saw it in the days of King Robert, pleasantly styles it a river,

Quanto ricco d'onor, tanto povero d'acque,

As rich as it is in fame, so poor is it in water.

We soon after left the hilly grounds, to descend into the immense plains of Nola, one entire grove of tall elms and poplars, planted in rows to support the vines growing at their feet, and stretching their branches from tree to tree in beautiful garlands. Between the lines, the husbandman sows corn and pulse without any fallow; and, to prevent the land from being exhausted, raises early crops of lupins and beans, which he hoes up before they fructify, and buries for manure. The harrowing and rolling is performed by oxen. This scene for a while astonishes and fills the eye; but, from the extent of the plantation, the sameness of objects, and the total exclusion of all prospect, it soon becomes unpleasant and fatiguing. The soil is a sandy volcanic loam,

loam, in a high degree rich and vegetative. The close shade of so much wood preserves it in a due state of moisture, without which its fertility would be greatly diminished by the heat of the climate; but this shade gives the whole country a disagreeable damp smell.

Near a village called Cisterna, we found masons at work in a quarry of dark-blue lava, similar to the pavement of Naples. This place is exactly situated so as to have Monte Somma in a line between it and the cone of Vesuvius, of which nothing appears but the column of smoke: a clear proof, that these layers of lava cannot have run out of the present crater, as the height of the ridge of Somma would prevent any matter from being poured over it, unless the actual volcano first filled up and levelled to the brim the intermediate valley, called Atrio del Cavallo. Every naturalist, that is not blinded by the prejudices of some system formed in his closet, and implicitly adhered to in all his researches, must allow, that it is impossible to

account for these quarries, without supposing Somma to have been, in former ages, one of the sides of a much larger volcano than the present ignivomous mountain; and that, upon the falling-in of that enormous mass, subsequent eruptions must, out of one of the sides, have heaved up Vesuvius as we now behold it.

SECTION X.

WE turned off to the left, to see Nola, a city that affords little scope for observation, as the ruins of its ancient edifices are almost obliterated. Nothing remains of the two amphitheatres but some brick walls, the marble casing having been taken away by an Earl of Nola to build his palace.

Some anecdotes render its history interesting. It experienced all the horrors of war from the army

army of Spartacus, who, in the 680th year of Rome, took it by surprize, and exercised unheard-of barbarities upon the inhabitants. Augustus died here at the age of seventy-five years, said to have been poisoned in a dish of figs by Livia, upon his betraying a return of tenderness towards his own family; but, methinks, old age and infirmities were sufficient causes for the death of a man worn out with the fatigue of a long reign over a nation of conquerors, whom his cruelty and policy had reduced, from the haughtiest of republicans, to the most abject slaves that ever crouched beneath the iron rod of despotism. His faithful friend and fortunate general, Marcus Agrippa, was surprised by death a few years before him in the same place.

Saint Paulinus, a native of Bourdeaux, died Bishop of Nola in 431. He was an ingenious poet, and had been Consul. He is said to have been the inventor of bells by the Nolans, who arrogate to themselves the merit of having fur-

nished society with this useful instrument : but I rather suppose him to have been the first who introduced them into churches, and hung them up in steeples, for the purpose of summoning the faithful to prayers. Before his time, Christians made use of wooden rattles, *sacra ligna*, to call the congregation together, no bells being allowed by government to a proscribed sect. The ancients had bells both for prophane and sacred service. Polybius mentions them ; and we learn by a tale in Strabo, that market-time was announced by them*.

Pliny assures us, that the tomb of Porfena, King of Tuscany, was hung round with bells,

* He relates, that at Jassicum, a musician, who had drawn a great crowd of auditors about him, was suddenly deserted by them all, except one man, who was rather hard of hearing. The performer paid him a compliment upon his taste for harmony, which detained him after the sound of the bells had caused all the rest of the auditory to quit the place. "What! (says the deaf man) has the bell rung? then the fish-market is open, and I must run away too."

and

and the *Lebetes* of the temple of Dodona were certainly a species of them. The hour of bathing was made known at Rome by the sound of a bell; the night-watchman carried one, and it served to call up the servants in great houses. Sheep had them tied about their necks to frighten away wolves, or rather by way of amulet. In our days, this custom, like many other ethnic ones, serves as a wild stock to graft a devout ceremony upon. Bells are now placed under the protection of St. Anthony and others, blessed and flung round the necks of cattle and sheep, to preserve them from epidemical disorders. Shepherds also think the sound pleases the beast, and makes it eat its meat with more cheerfulness and benefit; at least, this facilitates the finding of those who have strayed from their pasture.

We are told by Lucian, that the priests of the Syrian goddess had bells, which they tingled by way of awaking the charity of bigots. I have seen many counterparts of these beggars
in

in Italy, hermits and mendicant friars, who warn you with a bell, that they are about to make a demand upon your purse.

Zonaras writes, that criminals going to execution had a bell tied to them, to give notice to all passengers, that no one might unawares cross their way, and by the accidental touching of them become unclean. This superstition may be the real origin of the custom in England of parish-bells ringing while a malefactor is on his way to the gallows; though it is generally supposed to be meant as a signal to all hearers, admonishing them to pray for the passing soul. Most of our religious practices date higher than we are willing to allow; and, at all events, I cannot be blamed for hazarding an opinion, which, by shewing the custom to be of heathenish extraction, tends in some degree to relieve many tender consciences, who daily lament, that so many relicks of popery are suffered to subsist in this Protestant country.

Ac-

According to Suetonius, Augustus having built, on the edge of the Capitoline hill, a temple to Jupiter the *Thunderer*, where he was remarkably constant in his devotions, dreamt that the *Capitoline* Jupiter appeared to him, and chid him for debauching all his votaries from him; and that he had answered the god by declaring, He had placed the *Thunderer* so near only by way of porter. In order to make good the assertion, the superstitious Emperor fixed bells under the roof of the new temple, within reach of the door. We may infer from hence, that strangers rang for admittance at the gates of grandees in those days, just as they do in ours *.

Giordano

* Bells appear to have derived their Latin appellations of *Nola* and *Campana* from this city and its province, either on account of its mines of copper (if any such there were), the celebrity of its founderies, or the expertness of its bell-casters. Quintilian is the first author that makes use of the term *Nola*; before him, *Tintinnabulum* was the
common

Giordano Bruni, born at Nola in the sixteenth century, made a great noise in the theological world, by means of a small book, mentioned with contempt by the Spectator, who, in his 389th number, gives an account of it. This pamphlet, under the title of *Spaccio della bestia trionfante*, treats all religions equally as human inventions; laughs at miracles and revelations as so many impostures rendered mischievous by the arts of an interested priesthood: it declares the plain law of nature to be the only rule of life worthy to be followed by a being endued with reason; besides many other opinions, which the whole church of Christ holds in utter abhorrence, and unanimously anathematizes. Bruni

common name; and in St. Jerome's time was the first appearance of the word *Campana*.

The modern Nolans can boast of little skill in the founding art; and, indeed, a good ring of bells is a thing unthought-of in the kingdom: it does not enter the head of a Neapolitan, that any skill can be required in a bell-ringer.

resided

resided long at the court of Queen Elizabeth, under the protection of several great men; but venturing back to Italy in 1600, was seized by the inquisition, and burnt at Venice.

It is impossible to ascertain who were the first people that settled at Nola; but its coins prove it to have been at one time inhabited by Greeks. They differ in nothing but the legend from those of ancient Naples*.

Nola seems to have been a city of consequence under the first Emperors, and to have had a navigable cut that communicated with the Sarno, or the sea. What makes this idea less paradoxical is, that anchors, rings, and other appurtenances of navigation, have been dug up near the town. Vesuvius has overwhelmed so many more considerable objects, that it ought not to excite

* Numm. Nol.—1. Caput Dianæ.—Minotaurus gradiens victoriâ supervolitante ΝΩΛΑΙΩΝ. Arg. Ex Cimel. meo.

2. Caput Palladis galeatum cum lauro et noctua.—Minotaurus sub. Æ.—ΝΩΛΑΙΩΝ—Ær.

much

much wonder, if, at this day, all traces are lost of any such canal; but, perhaps, these fragments of shipping ought to be ascribed to those very remote ages, in which the sea flowed up to the foot of the Apennine, and spread itself over the whole intermediate plain.

This lordship was included in the grants made by Charles of Anjou to Guy * de Montfort, the companion of his victories, and one of the sons of our famous Earl of Leicester. His only daughter married Raymond Orfino, the first of that illustrious Roman family that settled in the kingdom of Naples, where his posterity afterwards became Princes of Taranto and Salerno,

* This Guy was the man, who, in revenge of his father's death, murdered Henry, son of the King of the Romans, in the church of Viterbo. After a short retreat from court, and a mock penance, he was restored to favour by Charles, whose character suffered much in the opinion of all good men for this partiality to an assassin. Guy was at last taken prisoner in a sea-fight by the Aragonese, and cast into a dungeon, where he died.

and

and still remain Dukes of Gravina. Orso Orfini, Earl of Nola, made a great figure in the wars between the Kings of the Aragonian line and their Barons. His branch failed in 1533; and since that time this honour has remained vested in the crown.

SECTION XI.

WE joined the road again at a village belonging to the Albertini. It is called Cimitile, by corruption from Cœmeterium, the real name, which it received from a great number of martyrs buried here in the suffering ages of Christianity. Here begins the road through the mountains into Puglia, opened in 1593, and repaired by the present King of Spain. The late learned Canon Mazzocchi composed elaborate Latin epigraphes in honour of the undertaking, which are placed upon screens or pieces of wall ornamented in a very bad taste.

We

We now entered a pleasant valley that winds up between hills into the very bosom of the Apennines. These hills advance into the plain like bold promontories, and seem to indicate that, in some remote century, they were washed by the waves of the sea, till the soil at their foot was so raised by the increase of marine subsidences, the workings of underground fires, or the accumulation of cinders vomited out of Vesuvius, as at length to confine the waters to the bounds of the present gulf. Cinerated substances compose the interior strata of these eminences; but it is a debateable point, whether they were cast hither in showers by the neighbouring volcano, or thrown up by particular eruptions of their own. The surface is covered with thick woods of chestnut-trees, a plant I have observed to delight in this sort of soil: it grows luxuriantly on Monte Somma, the heights of the Camaldoli near Naples, the Pyrenees near medicinal springs, and, in general, in the neighbourhood of subterraneous fires; not to mention

mention the gigantic trees that for ages have darkened the sides of Etna.

On the skirts of the plain appear the castle and town of Avella, in a delightful situation, commanding a view as far as Naples. They gave name to a family descended from the ancient Dukes of Austria. Rinolda Avella commanded the army of Charles the Second in Sicily, and gained great honour by his gallant defence of Augusta. In the reign of Joan the First, the heiress of the Avelli married into the house of Baux, or Del Balzo *. By a grant of

* It passed for being a branch of the Visigothic Balti, a family that boasted of having given a long line of monarchs to the Western Goths, with the formidable name of Alaric at the head of the list. The De Baux accompanied Charles the First from Provence, where they had once possessed an independent sovereignty. From his liberal hand they received ample infeudations of the conquered country; but marriage proved a source of much greater riches, and enabled them to vie in wealth, rank, and power, with the Sanseverini, Marsans, and Orfini. Their race ended with the Earl of Castro in Charles the Fifth's reign.

Ferdinand the First, Avella went to Orso Orsini, then passed through the Spinelli and Cataneo lines, and now gives the title of Prince to the family of Doria *.

Not far from hence are the ruins of Abella, a place, as Virgil informs us, celebrated for the quality of its apples:

Et quos maliferæ despectant mœnia Abellæ †.

Some editions read *melliferæ*. Either reading is characteristical; for the environs are still as remarkable for the abundance and perfection of their fruit, as for the flavour of their honey. The ancient walls remain in many places, and inclose a circuit of near three miles. In the middle are the fragments of an amphitheatre, with some dens and substructions.

* The heiress of Doria is married to Prince Colonna (younger brother of the Great Constable of Naples), who has taken the name of Doria, and the title of Avella.

† “And those whom the walls of apple-bearing Abella
“look down upon.”

At

At a large village, called Cardinale, we came to the head of the valley, and began to climb up a very lofty ridge; the ascent easy, and the road good, overhung with fine woods that stretch from the top of the mountain to the bottom, now and then leaving openings for bold rugged cliffs to rise up in shaggy horror along the summit. These mountains are rendered famous in Neapolitan history by the adventurous journey of Manfred, who, after making his escape from the Pope, wandered over these rocky wildernesses, in order to penetrate into Puglia, where he expected to meet with partisans; and by the still more hazardous passage of René of Anjou, who, in the middle of winter, in the darkest night, travelled through deep snows and pathless forests, to avoid being stopped in his way to Abruzzo, where he was obliged to make his appearance in person, to rouse Anthony Caldora, his most powerful adherent, from a fatal political lethargy. René was the father of Margaret, wife of our Henry the Sixth. He was

one of the most amiable of men; he not only patronized learning in others, but cultivated letters himself, with no contemptible success for the times he lived in, when ignorance and barbarism still reigned in France, though Petrarch and Boccaccio had already carried Italian literature to a wonderful degree of perfection. René struggled long with Alphonfus of Aragon before he gave up the contest; and, when deprived of every means of supporting the war, still kept a large party together by no other tie than the veneration and love with which his affability, courage, and noble spirit, had inspired all that approached his person.

Montforte, a village with a ruinous tower, wildly situated on the point of a rock, commands the pass, and an extensive view into the heart of the Principato Ultra. This insignificant place, from the singular advantages of its position, has more than once stopped whole armies. Charles the First bestowed it on the
Montforts,

Montforts, more on account of a similitude of name, than the value of the fief.

The descent on the eastern side is shorter than that into Terra di Lavoro, as the plains of the latter lie much below the level of the valley we were entering. The landscape before us was extremely beautiful, being embellished with great variety of culture, enlivened by the whiteness of the houses, and the waters of the Sabato, a clear stream, that winds its way through woods and orchards; dark, solemn mountains overshadow it on every side, except where a large opening lets in a view of the distant hills, and of the passage to the Adriatic.

The Sabato takes its rise at no great distance up the vale, from numberless springs bubbling up through a bed of pebbles, and running together into a pool full of trout. The scenery round the pond, and down the course of this pleasant rivulet, is exceedingly romantic, as the wild beauties of nature melt gradually into the more regular features of art and cultivation.

An avenue, near a mile in length, conducted us to the gates of Avellino. The trees are poplars, remarkable for their height, bulk, and closeness of foliage.

SECTION XII.

THE present city of Avellino most probably owes its foundation to the Lombards. The first of its lords that I find mentioned in history is Ranulph, who flourished in the twelfth century, was a baron of mighty power, and brother-in-law to King Roger. This alliance did not prevent his heading a party against that monarch, whose forces he defeated in several encounters: had not death put a stop to his progress, he would undoubtedly have stripped the King of many rich provinces, and formed to himself an independent state, as the Pope and
the

the Emperor had already granted him investiture of the Dutchy of Puglia. Roger dell' Aquila was Earl of Avellino in 1160. It was granted by Charles the First to Simon de Montfort ; but he being killed in a duel by Fulk Ruffo, the honour returned to the crown.

The family of Baux was afterwards possessed of it. The Filangeri had it next by a donation from Charles the Third ; and their heirefs having married Sergianni Caracciolo, the famous favourite of Joan the Second, the estate came into the family of Caracciolo, in which it remains to this day with the title of Prince. However, it appears to have been forfeited, as Marino Caracciolo purchased it long after. It is not clear whence the Caraccioli came ; nor can much confidence be placed in the stories promulgated by some authors, who make them out to be descendants of the ancient Greeks, Romans, or Goths. A learned friend of mine is of opinion, that they came first out of Germany with Frederick or Henry ; and these are

his reasons : They are never mentioned in any public transaction before the time of the Swabian princes. An ancient Chronicle says expressly, that the Emperor Frederick the Second never entrusted the command of his armies or fortresses to any but Germans or Saracens ; and in the next page speaks of a *Caracfol*, as leader of a division of the Imperial forces. Matthew Spinelli of Giovenazzo, a contemporary writer, furnishes a still stronger proof, by assuring us, that Peter Pignatelli rendered himself very odious to many families, particularly to the Caraccioli, by advising Charles of Anjou, on the approach of Conradine, to banish all the nobles of German extraction, as being men of doubtful loyalty. The foundation of their grandeur was laid by the unshaken fidelity of John Caracciolo, who, being besieged by rebels in the castle of Ischia, of which he had been appointed governor by the Emperor Frederick, chose rather to perish in the flames that consumed the fortress, than surrender his trust.

His

His master was not insensible to such a proof of attachment, but expressed the warmest sentiments of gratitude for his memory; and conferred such honours and riches on his sons, as raised them to great consequence in the state. The family has ever since been much considered by its sovereigns; and the branches sent off from the main stock have become as wealthy and powerful as itself, and are at this day upon a par with the noblest and richest houses in the kingdom. Five of these branches are proprietors of a very singular Bank, called *Il Monte Ciarletto*, which secures a noble portion to their daughters, and of late to their younger sons. The story of its foundation is as follows:— Charles Caracciolo had an only daughter, whom he was determined to marry to one of his kinsmen, that his rich inheritance might remain in the family. This match was contrary to the inclinations of the young lady, who positively refused to acquiesce in it. Her enraged father shut her up in a convent, where she took the veil

veil by compulsion; but soon after, in a fit of despair, put an end to her existence. Charles, distracted with remorse and grief, did not long survive the child he had used so cruelly; and by way of atonement determined, if possible, to prevent any Caracciola from becoming a nun, at least from a want of fortune: he therefore established a fund to accumulate for them. When any daughter of the family marries, she receives the interests and savings accruing from the bank since the last person was endowed. It never has been more than an hundred thousand ducats (£. 18,750). A change has lately taken place, through the address and management of a lady married to one of these Caraccioli. The marriage portion of the women is limited to 70,000 ducats; and the remainder of the produce is to be appropriated to the education and maintenance of the younger sons. The director of this Bank has a house, table, and equipage, provided for him. Several similar funds have
been

been established by associated families, in imitation of the bank of the Ciarletto.

Avellino is a considerable city, extending a mile in length down the declivity of a hill, with ugly streets, but tolerable houses. The churches have nothing to recommend them, being crowded with monstrous ornaments in a barbarous style, which the Neapolitans seem to have borrowed from the Spaniards. The cathedral is a poor building, in a wretched situation, with little to attract the eye, except some uncouth Latin distichs, and shapeless Gothic sculpture. The good people of this town need not run to Naples to see the blood of St. Januarius; for they have a statue of St. Laurence, with a phial of his blood, which for eight days, in August, entertains them with a similar miraculous liquefaction. Their only edifice of note is a public granary, of the Composite order, adorned with antique statues, and a very elegant bronze one of Charles the Second, King
of

of Spain, while a boy, cast by Cavalier Cosimo.

The number of inhabitants amounts to eight thousand, some say ten thousand. The Bishop's revenue is about six thousand ducats (£.1,125) a year. The magistracy consists of a Syndic and four Eletti, all annual; which offices are engrossed by a certain number of families of some distinction, that neither intermarry nor associate with the rest of the burghers.

The Prince has estates here to the yearly value of twenty thousand ducats (£.3,750), of which two thousand arise from duties on the dye of cloth, which is made of various qualities and colours, but chiefly blue. The finest sells for thirty carlini a canna, and pays twenty-six grana duty of entrance into Naples. This tax is a piece of blundering management, but too common in the kingdom; the offspring of short-sighted rapacity, fostering by government at the expence of all home-trade, and to the discouragement

ragement of every species of industry. Many wealthy merchants have a concern in this cloth-business, some with a capital of eighty thousand ducats (£.15,000). The poor women, who spin the wool, must work very hard to earn above four grana a day.

The second article of trade is *maccaroni* and *paste* of many kinds, which, being of an excellent quality, are in high repute all over the country. Wooden chairs are also made and sold here in great quantities.

Avellino abounds with provisions of every sort; each street is supplied with wholesome water; the wine is but indifferent. The soil of this district, which consists chiefly of volcanic substances, produces little corn, but fruit in abundance, of which the apple is deservedly held in great esteem. The most profitable, however, of all its fruit-trees is the hazel. Nut-bushes cover the face of the valley, and in good years bring in a profit of sixty thousand ducats

ducats (£.11,250). I enquired into many particulars concerning the nuts, and believe they are mostly of the large round species of filbert, which we call Spanish. These bushes were originally imported into Italy from Pontus, and known among the Romans by the appellation of *Nux Pontica*, which, in process of time, was changed into that of *Nux Avellana*, from the place where they had been propagated with the greatest success. The proprietors plant them in rows, and by dressing, form them into large bushes of many stems. Every year they refresh the roots with new earth, and prune off the straggling shoots with great attention.

SECTION XIII.

THE women of this neighbourhood are handsome, and take great pains to deck out their persons to advantage. Once a week they wash their hair with a lye of wood-ashes, that changes it from a dark-brown colour to a flaxen yellow of many different tints in the same head of hair. This I take to be the true *flavacafaries* of the Latin poets. Experience has taught me to discover many traces of ancient customs in the modes and habits of the modern Italians. Attentive observation will make a person, to whom the classic writings are familiar, sensible of this resemblance every day he passes in the southern parts of Italy, especially if he has opportunities of studying the manners of the lower class of inhabitants, whose character has as yet received but a slight tinge from a mixture
with

with foreigners. He will recognize the *Præfice* of the ancients, in the appearance and actions of old women that are hired in Calabria to howl at burials. The funeral behaviour and measure of grief in the Calabrese are regulated by the strictest etiquette. The virtues as well as vices of a deceased father of a family are recapitulated by the oldest person in company. The widow repeats his words, adds comments of her own, then roars out loudly, and plucks off handfuls of her hair, which she strews over the bier. Daughters tear their locks, and beat their breasts, but remain silent. More distant relations repeat the oration coolly, and commit no outrage upon their persons. When the kinsman of a baron or rich citizen dies, a number of old women are hired to perform all these ceremonies for the family.

At Naples, the forms are rather different. I was one day witness of the funeral of an old fisherman. The actions of his widow were so overstrained as to be truly ridiculous: she tore
off.

off her hair and clothes, and yelled in the most hideous manner, till her step-sons appeared to take possession of the goods : she then turned her fury upon them, and beat them out of the house. The priests now came for the body, and she opposed their entry for a decent length of time ; but at last, suffering herself to be overpowered by numbers, flew to the window with her daughters and her mother (who, from having outlived many relations, had scarcely a hair left on her head), and there beat her breast, scratched her cheeks, and threw whole handfuls of hair towards the bier with the frantic gestures of a demoniack. The procession was no sooner out of sight, than all was quiet ; and in five minutes I heard them laughing and dancing about the room, as if rejoicing to be rid of the old churl.

In some parts of the country, it is a rule to fast the whole day of the interment. Two women, in a village near Salerno, mother and daughter of a farmer, at whose removal from

the house they had acted their parts with great applause, locked themselves up, and, in order to recover strength after the fatigue they had undergone, began, in defiance of custom, to fry some pieces of tripe for their dinner. As ill luck would have it, a couple of relations, who, living at a great distance, had come too late for the ceremony, knocked at the door to pay their respects to the disconsolate widow. Great was the difficulty they found in gaining admittance : all the parade of grief was again displayed, the dinner slipped into a napkin, and hid under the bed, and nothing heard in the room but groans and lamentations. The strangers entered with composed mien, and were endeavouring, with little success, to administer comfort to their unhappy kinswomen, when, behold ! a dog they had brought with them winded the fry, and dragged it out into the middle of the floor, to the great scandal of the visitors, and the utter confusion of the mourners, whose

whose reputation was irretrievably ruined in the esteem of the whole parish.

The verse in Virgil,

* *Hinc altâ sub rupe canet frondator ad auras,*

ECL. I.

naturally occurs, when, in our walks under the rocky cliffs of Posilipo, we see the peasant swinging from the top of a tree on a rope of twisted willows, trimming the poplar and the luxuriant tendrils of the vine, and hear him make the whole vale ring with his rustic ditty.

A classic scholar cannot stroll under the groves of the plain, without calling to mind Horace's

† *Durus*

Vindemiator et invictus, cui sæpe viator

Cessisset, magnâ compellans voce cucullum,

SAT. vii.

* "The lopper shall sing to the winds under the lofty
"rock."

† "A rough and invincible vine-dresser, before whom
"the traveller often retired, calling him with a loud voice
"Cuckow."

if he attend to the vine-dresser sitting among the boughs, lashing raw lads and bashful maidens, as they return from market, with the same gross wit and rough jokes that gave such zest of old to the farces of Atella.

The Neapolitan girls dance to the snapping of their fingers and the beat of a tambourine, and whirl their petticoats about them. With greater elegance in the position, and more airiness in the flow of the drapery, striking likenesses of them may be found among the paintings of Herculaneum.

A young fisherman of Naples naturally throws his limbs into most graceful attitudes; and it was, no doubt, from the study of similar figures, that the Grecian statuaries drew their nice ideas of beauty and perfection of forms.

If an antiquary longs for a Roman dish, Sorrento will supply him with the paps of a sow, dressed in the antique taste, by the name of Verrina; and I believe Peregrine Pickle's learned friend might, with a little attention, discover
sufficient

sufficient remnants of ancient cookery in the environs of Naples, to make out a tolerable bill of fare.

To this day, the rigging of small vessels on the Neapolitan coast answers the descriptions left us of ancient sailing. I doubt whether it be an easy matter to comprehend the manœuvres of Ulysses or Æneas in their various navigations, without having examined the trim of one of these boats; nay, I believe it scarcely possible to enter into the spirit of the classic authors, without a previous visit to Italy or Greece. I am certain, at least, that my travels on classic ground have rendered me infinitely more sensible of their beauties, than I ever should have been had I remained at home.

SECTION XIV.

WE made an excursion, two miles to the right, to Atripalda, a small town built upon the ruins of Abellinum Marficum, as a great number of mutilated basso-relievos, altars, and inscriptions attest. The inhabitants are supposed to have retired from it in the middle ages, and to have founded the present city of Avellino, a situation more convenient for traffick. Atripalda, which drives on some trade in paper, cloth, and hardware, stands upon an eminence composed of strata of a soft-coloured tufo. This kind of petrification has been produced by the cementation of ashes, earthy particles, and water, thrown out of burning mountains; is generally of a yellow cast, with fissures, and marked with horizontal wavy streaks. I saw
here

here a very delicate species of knot-grass, called Finello, which grows in the woods, is filky, and used in stuffing pack-saddles and chair-bottoms.

In 1501, when the French and Spaniards divided the kingdom between them, the former held their courts of justice for the principality of Benevento at Avellino; and, upon a dispute arising between the two nations concerning their claims to the possession of the province, the Spaniards sent their law-officers to hold an assize at Atripalda. The French immediately attacked them there, and by this act of hostility provoked a war that ended in their own expulsion out of the realm.

This town was first held in fee by the Montforts; it was afterwards granted by Ferdinand the First to George Castriot, known by the name of Scanderbeg, Prince of Epirus, as a reward for his timely assistance in 1460, when he came from Greece with a strong force, raised the siege of Barletta, and discomfited the army of John

of Anjou : it now gives title of Duke to the Prince of Avellino's eldest son.

The road was thronged with mules, pigs, sheep, and cattle of a large grey breed, going to the fair of Atripalda. The current price of a good mule is sixty ducats (11*l.* 5*s.*) ; of a pair of bullocks, a hundred ducats (18*l.* 5*s.*)

As we returned very early, it was agreed to spend the afternoon in a visit to the Convent of Monte Vergine, which our guide pointed out to us on a wild mountain, hanging over Avellino, every now and then hidden from our sight by white clouds that drove along its side. The journey to it was rather fatiguing ; but the incomparable view it afforded made us pay little regard to the trouble of climbing. We unluckily arrived at an undue hour, which deprived us of the pleasure of conversing with any of the monks, except an ignorant lay-brother, who shewed us the church. Not having had an opportunity of procuring information on the spot,

spot, I shall give a summary of what I have since learned concerning this monastery.

In Pagan times, this mountain was sacred to the Mother of the Gods, who had here a sumptuous temple, of which four columns of Portasanta marble * are employed in the present fabrick. In the museum of the convent is preserved a basso-relievo, representing a boy with a cornucopia, a serpent twined round a fig-tree, and a tripod, emblems of the worship of Cybele; she was supposed to wander through the woods, in search of medicinal herbs for the cure of disorders incident to little children, and was therefore looked upon as the universal mother; Atys, her high-priest, pronounced oracles, or gave out prescriptions, from a three-legged stool. Tradition says, the mountain took its name from one Virginius, or Virgilius, a great necromancer, who had a garden full of

* A species of marble, so named from the Jubilee-door of St. Peter's at Rome, which is composed of it.

medicinal

medicinal herbs, with which he composed his magical drugs ; there is still a level spot of ground called l'Orto di Virgilio, and the mountain abounds with vulnerary plants.

Long after Christianity had seated itself on the throne of the Cæsars, long after the inhabitants of most cities had conformed to the sovereign's mode of worship, the wild mountainous parts of Italy remained obscured by the clouds of idolatry. The Apennine was full of Heathens, and from their residing in pagi, or villages, the name of Pagani came to be synonymous to that of Believer in the ancient deities of the empire*. The missionaries sent among them to preach the faith of Christ,

* From an inscription found at Atripalda, in 1712, we learn that the Pagan religion flourished in the Neapolitan provinces after the death of Constantine the Great. It relates that the senate and people of Abellinum erected a statue to C. J. Tatianus, consular of Campania, priest of Vesta and Hercules. He was in office during the reigns of Constantine's children.

found

found no means of conversion so easy and efficacious as those of admitting some of the names and ceremonies of the old church into the ritual of the new one. By thus adopting many tenets and forms of Paganism, they reconciled their proselytes to the idea of exchanging Jupiter for Jehovah, and their lares and penates for saints and guardian angels. To this expedient of priestcraft must be ascribed many strange devotions and local superstitions, still prevalent in Roman Catholic countries, which ought not to be confounded by the adversaries of that church with its real doctrines. All the truly learned and sensible persons of that communion reject, abhor, and lament such depravation; and, were it possible to reason rude minds out of hereditary prejudices, would long since have abolished them.

It was no doubt in compliance with the above conciliatory method, that in 1119 the mountain was rescued from the patronage of the mother

ther of the false gods, and dedicated to the mother of Christ, by William of Vercelli. He retired into these solitudes to exercise upon his youthful flesh all manner of holy barbarities; and when zeal and fasting had well heated his imagination, was favoured with an apparition, that enjoined him to erect a convent on the spot. In obedience to the command, he founded this abbey, the mother church of a reform of the Benedictine order. The monks are dressed in white, and had once spread themselves over several countries; but are at present confined to one house in the Roman state, and twenty-seven in the kingdom of Naples. Frederic of Swabia was very partial to the Verginians, and instituted a confraternity of knights aggregated to their society. Charles of Valois introduced the order into France; but all traces of it have long been lost there; and we shall probably soon hear of its abolition in Naples, such a project having been in contemplation.

In

In 1124, William finished his monastery, which was soon enriched with relics fit to attract the notice of pious believers; but it lost a most capital jewel of its treasure in 1467, when Ferdinand the First, under pretence of opposing it to the fury of the plague, obtained leave to transport the body of St. Januarius to Naples. The roguish Neapolitans, having once got possession, refused to return it to the right owners, who are obliged to comfort themselves under this misfortune with the colossal portrait of the Virgin Mary. It was formerly venerated in Antioch, and presented to this sanctuary by Catherine, wife of Philip of Anjou, titular emperor of Constantinople. The head of this picture is very old, but the bust was added by Montano d'Arezzo, a celebrated artist, to whom Philip gave land near Nola, as a recompence. This image is of gigantic or heroic proportion, and passes for the work of St. Luke the Evangelist, though the very size is an argument against its being a portrait from the life, had

we even the slightest reason to believe that he had ever handled the pencil. There are in Italy and elsewhere some dozens of black, ugly Madonnas, which all pass for the work of his hands, and as such are revered *.

The concourse of votaries is prodigious on the eighth of September, the feast of the nativity

* The origin of this fable, or rather mistake, appears to be, that, about the time that paintings of holy subjects came into fashion, there lived at Constantinople a painter called Luke, who, by many representations of the Virgin, acquired a very transcendent reputation. He was a man of exemplary life, and on account of his piety, and the edifying use he made of his talents, was generally known by the name of Holy Luke. In process of time, when the epocha and circumstances of his life were forgotten by the vulgar, and his performances had acquired by age a smoky, dusky cast, sufficient to perplex the short-sighted connoisseurs of those days, devotees ascribed his pictures to the Evangelist, who was pronounced a painter, because they knew of no other saint of the name, and because, if he had been a painter, no one could have had such opportunities of examining and delineating the features of the holy model.

of

of the Patroness. The rule of the Order allows neither fresh nor salt meat, eggs, milk, butter, nor cheese; and surely nobody will venture to bring up any of these prohibited viands, if he be acquainted with an inscription in the court, relating the catastrophe of four hundred pilgrims, burnt in their beds in 1611, because one of them had brought up a luncheon of cheese in his pocket. Our guide hinted to us, that if any one were to eat meat here, or even have a little grease about his person, it would cause a most tremendous hurricane, and overwhelm the whole mountain with a deluge of rain. Charles, King of Hungary, Prince of Salerno, son of Charles the Second, granted to these fathers a patent, by which he forbade all salt-fish to be exposed to sale in the fair of Salerno, till the agents of Monte Vergine had made their provision; a privilege they enjoy to this day.

The most ancient monument in the church is a large sarcophagus, which was made to contain the ashes of Minius Proculus. King Manfred intended

tended it should be the repository of his own, and placed it in a chapel he had founded in this religious house ; but his bones are left to blanch in the fields unknown, while the urn remains without a tenant. John di Lionessa, marshal of the Angevine army, obtained a grant of the chapel, which became the sepulture of his family. Here also lie the bodies of the Empress Catherine, Mary her daughter, and Lewis her son, married to Queen Joan the First.

On the second of August, 1629, the nave of the church was thrown-in by an earthquake, and most of the monuments beaten to dust. The Verginians rebuilt it in nine years, and over an arch of the court placed a pompous inscription, which contains an epitome of their history, and may serve as an epitaph to their expiring Order.

SECTION XV.

THE traces of fire are still very strong for several miles beyond Avellino; though here and there the burnt matter is intermingled with blocks of breccia, or coarse pudding-stone, which is a conglutination of pebbles. Perhaps, even these have undergone the trial of fire; as it is not uncommon for volcanos to cast up small stones in their natural state, with a quantity of water full of gross viscous particles; all which together may consolidate into masses of breccia. This sort of soil extends as far as La Serra, a straggling hamlet pleasantly situated near Monte Fuscolo.

Benevento being in the possession of the Roman see, the residence of the president and civil officers belonging to the Principato Ultra is fixed at Monte Fuscolo, as being the most central place among the demerital towns. Its prisons

are noted for being constantly full of malefactors; which gives but a poor idea of the moral character of the neighbouring inhabitants. They are indeed in very bad repute for robbery and assassination; but a considerable portion of the delinquents are confined for smuggling; to which the vicinity of the papal territories is a great encouragement. The situation of Monte Fuscolo is exceedingly bleak; and the prospect grand, over an immense tract of mountainous country. Charles of Anjou gave it to Henry de Vaudemont. It has long been reunited to the crown.

The hills are steep, but the road broad and well made. Upon a rising ground, near the inn of Mirabella, it passes through the ruins of Eclanum, an ancient city, now called by the peasants La Colonia*. In the early ages of

* From Benevento the Appian way passed through Eclanum (where the Via Trajana branched off to the left), and from thence through Frigento, Venusia, and Tarentum, to Brundisium.

Christianity here was a bishop's see, since removed to Frigento, and from thence to Avellino. Julian, chief of the Semipelagian heretics, was one of its prelates. It is not known by whom, and at what period, this city was destroyed; at present, the only remains are some mounds, brick walls, fragments of marble columns, and entablatures of the Doric and Corinthian orders. A little solitary farm-house has been added to an antique brick front, ornamented with brick pilasters, that have capitals with one row of leaves. As it stands at a distance from the other ruins, and much resembles some monuments near Rome, I take it to be a mausoleum. We purchased here a few cornelians and medals of the lower empire, dug up by the husbandmen.

In the afternoon, we rode six miles south to Frigento, by a deep valley, where our horses were almost up to the girths in clay, though the weather had been long dry. The country, for the most part, arable and poorly cultivated. Fri-

gento is a ruinous place on a hill, most wretchedly built, and scantily provided with the necessities of life. Its inhabitants, in number two thousand, subsist by the sale of sheep, hogs, and corn. In the whole town there was not a tolerable inn, where we could venture to pass the night; and should have fared very ill, if we had not accidentally met with an old priest, who carried us to his house in the neighbourhood, where he gave us board and lodging, and entertained us after supper with a relation of his own adventures.

He was born in this province, and educated at Rome. He there attached himself to a prelate likely to rise in the church, and accompanied this clergyman to several courts in quality of secretary to the nunciature: but, on his return to Italy, was supplanted by the artifices of a colleague, turned out of doors, and reduced for a maintenance to copy writings in a public office. His enemies, not satisfied with having ruined his fortunes, caused him to be
 fus

suspected of being the author of a libel against
 a cardinal; for which offence he was shut up in
 the castle of St. Angelo; and, after six months
 confinement, banished the Roman state. At
 Naples he entered into a nobleman's family as
 secretary, and unfortunately becoming the con-
 fidant of the eldest son, a mean profligate youth,
 was engaged in a nocturnal riot, where he saved
 his patron's life at the expence of two dange-
 rous wounds. The ungrateful nobleman took
 no further notice of him; but left him to lan-
 guish for many months in an hospital. As soon
 as he was cured, he set out on foot, penniless
 and in rags, for the place of his nativity;
 where, after many years humble attendance on
 an old relation, he inherited an estate, and ob-
 tained a benefice, sufficient to supply him with
 all the necessaries and comforts of life that so
 retired a part of the world admits of. This
 good old philosopher, who saw but little of the
 people of the neighbourhood, was delighted to
 spend an evening with company that could con-

verse of Paris, Rome, and other places which he had seen in his juvenile days, a pleasure he seldom tasted ; but he could not help expressing, with a sigh, his apprehensions that our visit would cost him a few bitter reflections, as it revived sensations that had been long lulled to rest in the bottom of his soul.

Next morning he accompanied us four miles to the Moffetta, supposed to be the same as the *Amsancti Valles* through which Virgil makes the fury *Alecto* descend to hell. His dark hanging wood, rumbling noise, and curling vortex, agree perfectly well with the present appearances *.

We

* *Est locus Italiæ medio sub montibus altis*
Amsancti valles : densis hunc frondibus atrum
Urget utrimque latus nemoris, medioque fragorus
Dat sonitum faxis et torto vortice torrens.

ÆNEID. lib. 7.

“ There is a place in the centre of Italy under lofty
 “ mountains, called the Valley of *Amsanctus*. On each
 “ side a bank of wood, black with thick foliage, presses
 “ upon

We were led into a narrow valley, extending a considerable way to the south-west, and preſt
 “ upon it; and in the middle a thundering torrent whirls
 “ about the ſtones, and curls up its waves.”

The Abbé Chaupy, author of an ingenious eccentrical diſſertation on Horace’s country-houſe, is of opinion, that Virgil meant the ſulphureous ponds of Cutiliæ near Rieti, becauſe they are more truly in the centre of Italy, and ſurrounded by higher mountains; and becauſe when Aleſto blows her horn to call the ſhepherds to arms, he ſays, it ſhook the river Nar, and the ſources of the Velinus; both which are in the neighbourhood of Cutiliæ; nevertheless, as Chaupy exhibits no proof that Cutiliæ ever bore the name of Amſanctus, and as the mountains of the Principato are certainly lofty enough to juſtify the expreſſion of “ ſub montibus altis,” I rather incline to leave the Hirpini in quiet poſſeſſion of this paſſage into the infernal regions.

Venuti, in Monaldini’s folio edition of Virgil, gives a diſſertation and print to prove, that the Fury went down in a hole at Monte Caſino, though he acknowledges there is no peſtilential vapour, nor much wood, in that place. The boundaries of Italy have ſo often varied, that the middle of it cannot be fixed in any præciſe ſpot; and I ſee no reaſon why a place, equi-diſtant from both ſeas, may not be ſaid to be in the middle of the country.

in on both sides by high ridges thickly covered with copses of oak. The bottom of the dell is bare and arid : in the lowest part, and close under one of the hills, is an oval pond of muddy ash-coloured water, not above fifty feet in diameter : it boils up in several places with great force in irregular fits, which are always preceded by a hissing sound. The water was several times spouted up as high as our heads, in a diagonal direction, a whirlpool being formed round the tube, like a basin, to receive it as it fell. A large body of vapour is continually thrown out, with a loud rumbling noise. The stones on the rising ground that hangs over the pool are quite yellow, being stained with the fumes of sulphur and sal ammoniac. A most nauseous smell rising with the steam obliged us to watch the wind, and keep clear of it, to avoid suffocation. The water is quite insipid, both as to taste and smell ; the clay at the edges is white, and carried into Puglia, to rub upon scabby sheep ; on which account the lake is farmed out at one hundred ducats a year.

On

On a hill above this lake stood formerly a temple dedicated to the Goddess Mehhitis; but I perceived no remains of it.

Having taken leave of our kind conductor, we returned to the great road, and travelled eight miles farther to Ariano, over very high naked hills, not unlike those of Upper Andalusia. Near Grotta Minarda, the Roman road which Horace followed, strikes off to the right hand to Trevico*, a baronial town on an eminence, which recommended itself to our notice, by holding a place in that poet's journal; for, since that of the journey from Rome to Reggio, said to have been written by the satirist Lucilius, has not reached us, we may consider Horace's fifth satire as the prototype of all tours and travels; and therefore every stage of it is an object of curiosity and veneration.

* Trevico is a marquissate of the Loffredi, a family of Lombard or Norman origin. Of this house was Francis, who harangued Charles of Anjou on his triumphal entry into Naples, and was employed by that prince in many embassies and negotiations.

S F C.

SECTION XVI.

ARIANO is an ugly city, built upon the uneven summit of a mountain, with an extensive look-out on all sides, but exposed to every blast that blows. We found the season very backward here, when compared with the spring we had left in the Terra di Lavoro. It does not appear to be so old as the time of the Romans, therefore may be supposed to owe its rise to the demolition of some neighbouring town, and to the advantages its situation afforded for discovery and defence*.

The first Earl of Ariano, I find recorded in history, was Roger, a person, no doubt, of Norman extraction: he rebelled against King Roger, was taken, stripped of his possessions, and sent prisoner to Sicily. Charles the First gave it to Henry de Vaudemont; the Sabrans

* Cluver places *Æquatuticus* here, without proof or probability.

were

were afterwards its lords ; and then the Caraffas, the Gonzagas, and, under Alphonfus the First, the Guevaras. In 1466 it became part of the demefne of the Crown.

It is but a poor place, without trade or manufactures ; having declined ever fince the defolation caufed by an earthquake in 1456. It reckons about fourteen thoufand inhabitants, and no lefs than twenty parifhes and convents, befides an ill-endowed cathedral.

The wine of Ariano is pale, like red champagne, which it alfo refembles in a certain tartnefs, exceedingly refreshing in hot weather.

The foil here lies upon a foft argillaceous ftone. At a fmall diftance to the eaft, is a bank confifting of layers of volcanical earth, interperfed with thick ftрата of oysterfhells. The partizans of a watry fystem will account for thefe oſtracites by the ſubſiding and gradual depositions of the fea. Theologifts will feize upon them as proofs and memorials of a general deluge. Others again, inclining to attribute more to the agency of fire, will inſiſt upon thefe

these shells having been pumped out of the sea by the force of an eruption, in some very distant age, when the salt waters came much nearer the heart of Italy than they do at present. It is the opinion of many learned observers of the operations and progress of Nature, that most parts of Italy owe their origin to fire; and that at first only the chain of calcareous mountains, called the Apennine, towered above the level of the waters, which then covered all the lowlands. Others carry it still farther, and assert, that nothing south of the Alps existed *ab origine* above the surface of the waves, but that the first eruptions began between the gulphs of S. Eufemia and Squillace, from whence they spread gradually, till they had completed the production of all Italy. According to them, after the first dry point was fixed, hills rose upon hills, volcanos shot up in clusters, and formed an invincible barrier, which for ever shut out all return of the sea. Man descended from the Alps, to cultivate the new exuberant soil;

soil ; and the mountains, being now far removed from the warm steams of the waters, to which they were indebted for their fertility, were abandoned to the wild beasts of the forest. The very name of Italy is by some said to imply a fiery origin, or an elevation above the ocean.

One paradoxical writer affirms, that the coins of Magna Græcia allude to these revolutions. In the bull of Sybaris he sees a smoking mountain, or a river choaked up by an eruption. The Hercules of Heraclea signifies a volcano ; his arrows, lightning ; the aquatic plant, the stagnated watry state of the country before the efforts of fire divided and dried it ; the shell represents the crater ; the upright vase, a lake ; the falling jug, an overturned country ; and a vessel with the bottom upwards, the draining of it.

We procured a lodging at the Dominican convent below the town. Within these last hundred years, their house has been thrice rebuilt, having been as often thrown to the ground by
earth-

earthquakes. The last and most destructive happened in 1732, fatal to all the country that lies along the eastern verge of the Apennine. In order to secure a retreat, in case of future accidents, which from their situation they have every reason to expect, these fathers have constructed a small building of wood, the parts of which, being joined together with strong iron chains, are contrived so as to have a proper play, and, by yielding to the oscillatory motion of the earth, return easily to their equilibrium.

It is remarkable that Abruzzo, Puglia, and Calabria, are repeatedly laid waste by earthquakes; while the shores of Terra di Lavoro, though exposed to the fury of Vesuvius, are seldom damaged by similar concussions. The issue that is given by that mountain to the subterraneous fires and vapours, no doubt preserves the neighbourhood from all violent shocks, and the want of such a vent-hole on the eastern coast, is the probable cause of the convulsions that so often overturn its cities. A passage in
Strabo

Strabo corroborates this opinion, by informing us, that in his time Campania was subject to frequent and destructive earthquakes; and we know that, sixteen years before the first-recorded explosion of Vesuvius, Pompeii, Stabia, and many neighbouring towns, were thrown down, and only in part rebuilt, when the great catastrophe of 79 buried them in lava and ashes. From the scanty chronicles of the lower ages, during which few eruptions are mentioned, we may gather that Naples and its district were continually torn to pieces by earthquakes; except in the first efforts of an eruption, they are now seldom felt there, since the mountain has enjoyed free and constant exhalation. Bufon thinks the vicinity of the sea so essential to the operations of a volcano, that, without the convenience of water, a sufficient effervescence cannot be obtained in its bowels; and all its efforts to burst the earth, in order to give passage to the fiery contents, become of course feeble and ineffectual. According to this hypothesis,

thesis, the retreat of the sea from the Apennine diminished by degrees the force of the volcanos which once abounded in that chain of mountains; but, by their impotent struggles, they still are able to shake the foundations of the whole country, and extend their ravages to a much greater distance than Vesuvius ever does in the most terrible paroxysms of its rage.

From Ariano we descended very rapidly towards the Adriatic, having hitherto been continually mounting from the level of the Mediterranean sea; and, being assured that many robbers were lurking in the forests, we took an escort of cavalry, not to appear obstinate and fool-hardy, though we gave very little credit to the report. These detachments of troopers are stationed by order of government at proper distances, to take travellers and merchants under their safeguard.

After passing over a very high champaign country, the road falls into a deep valley of considerable length; at the end of which the Puglian

lian plains and the Adriatic sea appear like horizontal stripes of different shades.

Two small towns, Savignano and Greci, stand loftily on each side of the defile. The latter is a colony of about one thousand four hundred Albanese, who still speak a mixed jargon between Italian and the Epirote language. Till 1731 they followed the Greek rite; but then, by royal mandate, exchanged it for the Latin liturgy.

Our ride now became more agreeable, as we travelled down the pleasant banks of the Cervaro. Handsome woods clothe the mountains on each side from the summit to the water edge. Our smell was refreshed by the fragrance rising from thickets of flowering shrubs; and our sight delighted with the gay bloom of the arbor Juda, which grows abundantly in this wilderness. There is but little timber of any value, most of the oaks having been lopped for fuel. The inn at the bridge of Bovino is placed in a cheerful situation; but from the lowness of

its position, and the proximity of the woods and water, in the summer-season is subject to malignant fevers.

The city of Bovino stands very high on the south side of the river. This is a duchy belonging to the Guevaras, one of the Spanish families that followed the fortunes of Alphonfus the Magnanimous*.

We continued our journey on the north side of the river, through an immense woody plain covered with low stunted oaks and very coarse benty grass. On the edge of this forest the king has a hunting seat, to which the publick is indebted for the noble road his father made from Naples hither. It is a pity the present sovereign does not honour Bovino now and then with a visit, as repairs begin to be very necessary

* There are still three other Aragonian houses in Naples, viz. Cavaniglia, Cardines, and Avalos, which, with Guevara, walk in solemn procession through Naples, on the octave-day of Corpus Domini, and visit four altars magnificently decked out at their joint expence.

for the roads. Their covering is quite worn out, and cut through to the very foundations. Their destruction is hastened by the waste waters of the fountains erected by King Charles; the conduits are broken or choaked up, and the water runs down the highway, where it forms quicksands and dangerous sloughs.

We crossed an ancient Roman road, still discernible among the bushes *.

A few miles to the left is Troja, built on an eminence out of the ruins of *Æcas*, a city destroyed by Constantine the Second. Bagianus, Catapan or Viceroy of the province, is said to have founded Troja in the eleventh century, by order of the emperors Basil and Constantine, to

* It was the *Æquututican*, which came through Trajan's arch at Benevento, where it branched off from the *Via Appia*, passed by the *Ponte Valentino*, under *Forum Novum*, now *La Padula* by *Æquustuticus*, now *Buon Albergo*; *Æcas*, now *Troja*; and, crossing the present road from *Foggia*, ran to *Herdonia*, now *Ordona*; and at *Canosa* joined the way that came from *Grotta Minarda* and *Ascoli*.

serve as a bulwark against the inroads of the Norman adventurers, and to have given it that name in commemoration of the famous city which by its fall has immortalized the heroes of Greece. It was long accounted a key to the Apennines, and as such was exposed to many assaults and sieges. The very year of its foundation it was stormed by the Germans; and king Roger also took it very soon after. Scarcely a rebellion happened under the Normans, but this place was a principal sufferer. It is memorable for the overthrow of John of Anjou by Ferdinand the First. Under Robert and Joan the First, I find Troja was a fief of the Capuas; in the reign of Charles the Third, Perotto of Ivrea had it; Cavanilla possessed it after the accession of the line of Aragon; and now it is in the house of Avalos.

SECTION

SECTION XVII.

WE soon after left the woods, climbed up the last ridge, and then, through a waste covered with wild pear-trees, descended into the extensive plains of Puglia, which afford a prospect curious from its novelty, but disagreeable after the survey of a few minutes.

In the centre stands Foggia, without walls, citadel, or gates, though a principal town of the province of Capitanata. It is neatly built of white stone, and has two or three good streets. The custom-house is a handsome edifice.

This town, with many others on the coast, was ruined in 1732 by an earthquake, which has occasioned its being rebuilt with greater neatness and regularity. In summer the air is unwholesome, and all persons that can afford to remove desert it during the hot months. In winter it is computed to contain about twenty

thousand inhabitants, including strangers. All the large streets and open squares are undermined with vaults, where corn is buried, and preserved sound from year to year. The orifices are closed up with boards and earth; the sides within faced with stone*.

I find little mention made of this place before the coming-in of the Swabians. Frederick built a fortress here, to overawe the Puglians, and took great delight in this residence. His sixth wife, Isabella, daughter of John king of England, died here in 1241. Here, according to most historians, was murdered, by order of his brother Conrad, Henry son of Frederick and Isabella, to whom that emperor had bequeathed the kingdom of Jerusalem, with large possessions in Europe, re-annexed in 1253, by this abominable fratricide, to the crown of Sicily. In 1254, Foggia was sacked by the soldiers of the regent Manfred; and hither fled the Pope's legate and army, before the victorious troops

* From these holes, or *fosse*, comes the word Foggia.
of

of that prince. The papal general demolished the imperial palace, and employed the materials to strengthen his entrenchments; but was nevertheless soon obliged to capitulate. In 1268, the Angevines pillaged this town, with every circumstance of cruelty and licentiousness. Here Philip, the second son of Charles the First, was married with great solemnity to the Princess of Morea, and here also he soon after died. A general of the King of Hungary abandoned it in 1350 to his soldiers, who found in it immense booty, as Foggia was at that time the most opulent place in Puglia. Its consequence, both in ancient and modern times, has been, and still is, owing to its being a staple for corn and wool, and to a tax or register-office, known by the name of the *Tribunale della dogana della mena delle pecore di Puglia*; i. e. "The custom-house for the toll of the sheep that pass to and from Puglia." It is managed by a governor, auditor, and two advocates, and has the distribution of a fixed assessment upon all sheep that

descend in autumn from the mountains of Abruzzo, into the warm plains of Puglia, where they year, and in May return to the high country.

We have the authority of Varro and others for ascribing the invention of this duty to the ancient Romans; who, on subduing the Italian states, were wont to allot the improved lands to colonies of their own citizens, while they left the original possessors the use of the wastes and less cultivated tracts, under the obligation of paying a tenth of the produce of the corn-lands, and a fifth of all other fruits. Breeders of cattle and sheep were to compound with the censors, who every year hung out a table of the conditions on which they proposed to lease out the public pastures. A list of the sheep intended to be sent to graze thereon was given in, and a proper allotment of land assigned, according to their number and the goodness of the pasturage: this was called *Scriptuarius Ager*. In later times, the Emperors appropriated all such common lands to themselves, and caused them to
be

be considered as their peculiar royalties. Varro says, sheep were driven out of Apulia into Samnium before summer, and on their passage were obliged to be declared (*prosteri*) to the publican. We gather from Odofredus of Beneventum, a writer of the thirteenth century, that this duty was not lost in that age; but in the two following ones the passage seems to have become quite free; and the pastures of Puglia open without fee to all shepherds that chose to bring down their flocks.

Alphonfus the First, foreseeing an immense accession to the royal revenue from the proper management of such customs, but at the same time being desirous of avoiding every shadow of coercive legislation and tyranny in the re-establishment of them, deputed Francis de Montubler to treat with the graziers and sheepmasters of Abruzzo, and the land-owners of Puglia. This intelligent minister disposed the minds of those he had to deal with so favourably, that he brought them to terms of great advantage

advantage to the crown, and present profit to themselves. The King engaged to supply the breeders with a new fine race of sheep imported from Spain *; to provide winter pasturage for seven months, and a convenient road, called the *Tratturo*, sixty paces wide, for the passing and repassing of the flocks; freedom from all royal tolls, and other dues; guards and protection from all assaults and disturbances, and materials for their huts and folds at reasonable prices, and on credit. He bound himself to compel all barons and bodies corporate, on the route, to furnish herbage for the sheep during twenty-four hours, and to compound moderately for all demands at bars and bridges.

* It is affirmed by the annotator on *Deliciæ Tarentinæ*, that they were propagated from some sheep sent as a present by Edward of England to a John of Aragon. Rapin says, Edward the Fourth was blamed by the nation for giving away sheep, and thereby improving the Spanish wool, to the detriment of the English sale; but Edward the Fourth reigned after the death of Alphonfus, and therefore it is likely Edward the Third was the donor, as he was a contemporary and in league with John the First of Aragon.

The

The Crown not being possessed of a sufficient range of pasture for the great flocks expected down from Abruzzo, Montubler purchased of the Puglian proprietors as much more as was deemed adequate to the purpose. The purchase, or rather perpetual lease, was only made for seven months in the year, during which time no other sheep or cattle are allowed to feed in the plains; and, in case of failure of herbage, the Crown reserved a power of compelling all subjects to let a lease of such grass-lands as might be wanted to make up the deficiency, and to abide by the evaluation of its officers. The ancient owners still continue absolute masters of the soil, and may dispose of the summer herbage as they think proper, and at all times turn swine into the woodlands. For all these leased grounds, the King agreed to pay for ever thirteen thousand nine hundred and twelve ducats a year, to stand all risks and losses, and to defray all expences attending the collection, which are computed at about fourteen thousand four

four hundred and thirty-four ducats more. These royal pastures are bounded by stones, and known by the name of *Tavoliere*. They extend sixty miles in length, and thirty in breadth, divided into twenty-three old lots, and twenty new ones, capable in all of feeding one million two hundred thousand sheep.

In return for all these attentions on the part of the King, the shepherds of Abruzzo bound themselves for ever to descend from the mountains every year, to submit to the jurisdiction, parcelling powers, and penalties pronounced by the Dogana, and to pay, for every five score of sheep, the sum of eight Venetian crowns, equal to eight Neapolitan ducats and four taris. The Crown has since, by a stretch of prerogative, raised the duty twice; once, in 1556, to twelve crowns; and a second time, in 1799, to thirteen ducats and twenty grana. The allotment for each flock was to be declared in November, and no agreement to be for a longer term than one season. The shepherds were to provide

provide themselves with every necessary, and not to have a power of selling any wool, lambs, cheese, or other commodity produced during their winter residence, in any fair but that of Foggia, where they were to be deposited in the royal magazines, and not touched without a permit. By way of compensation, no wools in the kingdom were to be suffered to be brought to market till those at Foggia were vended, the duties paid, and the tribunal satisfied for all its demands.

This Dogana is one of the richest mines of wealth belonging to the crown of Naples, and with proper œconomy is capable of a great annual increase, provided no epidemical distemper attack the flocks. Its advantages were so well known in 1500, when Lewis and Ferdinand made a partition of the kingdom, that it was agreed to halve the profits between them; and when the French attempted to evade this contract, by stopping the sheep and cattle at San Severo, before they reached the usual place of enregistering,

enregistering, the Spaniards thought themselves justifiable in attacking the French tax-gatherers, and dispersing both collectors and flocks. Soon after its institution, the Dogana cleared seventy-two thousand ducats. In 1536, one million forty-eight thousand three hundred and ninety-six sheep, and fourteen thousand four hundred cattle, produced seventy-two thousand two hundred and fourteen ducats. In 1680, the profits were one hundred fifty-five thousand eight hundred and sixty-three. In 1700, they amounted to two hundred seventy-two thousand and seventy-seven. In 1730, the tax produced two hundred thirty-five thousand and seventy-two. At present, the net profit arising to the King from the letting of the pastures is about forty thousand ducats; but, with the duties upon wool, tallow, &c. amounts to four hundred thousand. The produce did not exceed two hundred and eighty-one thousand, before the late Governor, the Marquis Granito, was sent thither; and all the increase is owing to his talents

talents in financiering. Competent judges have assured me, it would be no difficult matter to raise it to half a million of ducats.

The commodities of Foggia are corn, cheefe, and wool. The wool is bought up by the French and other foreigners; and therefore but a small advantage accrues to the province in comparison with what it might reap, were the materials employed at home. With judicious management, this country might carry on a very extensive trade, and attain the prosperity intended for it by the all-bounteous views of Providence, whose partiality has been counteracted, as much as possible, by the blunders and tyranny of man.

In the famine of 1764, instead of encouraging the farmers of Puglia to throw a seasonable supply of corn into Naples, by the offer of a good price and speedy payment, the ministry sent soldiers into the province to take it by force, and drive the owners before them, like beasts of burden, laden with their own property. Such as were unwilling to part with it by compulsion,

pulsion, and upon such hard terms, carried their corn up into the hills, and buried it. If any were detected in these practices, they were hanged.

On account of the great variety of field-sports to which the adjacent hills and plains are peculiarly adapted, this town was a favourite habitation of the German princes; but still more so of their enemy Charles the First, who erected here a sumptuous palace, with gardens and orchards, in which he was so curious, as to keep a list of all the fruit-trees planted in them. Here he died on the seventh of January, 1285, as he was on his way to Brindisi, to hasten an armament against Sicily. Charles was long accounted, with reason, the most fortunate of men; but the last years of his life were darkened with such a cloud of disasters as rank him among the most miserable. They broke his proud heart, and caused him to exclaim, in the bitterness of his soul, "O God! thou who
 " hast carried me up to the pinnacle of glory
 " and

“and prosperity, withdraw not thy hand! or,
 “if I am to be precipitated, let not my fall be
 “so rapid and headlong, but humble me by
 “degrees!”—A fever put an end to his anguish,
 but not without some suspicions of his having
 hastened his death by laying violent hands upon
 himself. This sovereign was endowed with great
 qualities, overbalanced by most crying vices.
 In his person he was tall and robust; a dark
 complexion, and prominent nose, gave his
 countenance an air of ferocious majesty. Un-
 daunted courage, profound knowledge of the
 military art, inviolable attachment to his word,
 unbounded generosity, watchfulness and patience
 under fatigue, form the outlines of his portrait
 on the fair side, and justify the title given him
 by his rival Don Pedro, King of Aragon, of
 the *Mejor caballero del mundo*. But, if we turn
 the canvas, we shall behold a man sour and
 gloomy in his disposition, unbridled in his
 passions, unjust in his pursuits, devoured by
 ambition, rapacious in the acquisition of wealth,

vindictive, bloody, and steeled against every sentiment of humanity : in one word, a great bad prince, mean enough to treat with indignity the mangled remains of the gallant Manfred, and juridically to murder the innocent Conradine, whose tender years and amiable faculties would have excited pity in almost any other breast.

We were for some time at a loss for lodgings, as all the inns, which are but sorry places of accommodation, were occupied by people drawn hither by the approaching fair. On this occasion Foggia becomes a place of great resort and gaiety, even for the Neapolitan nobility. They come hither to exercise their dexterity at play upon the purses of the less expert country gentlemen, whom they commonly send home stripped of the savings of a whole year. This passion for gaming rages with wonderful violence over all the kingdom, and is a plague that never dies, though it may intermit, nor is there any lazaretto to check its progress.

SEC-

SECTION XVIII.

OUR next stage was to Manfredonia, twenty miles through a flat pasture covered with asphodels, thistles, wild artichokes, and fennel-giant; of the last are made bee-hives and chair-bottoms; the leaves are given to asses, by way of a strengthener; and the tender buds are boiled and eaten as a delicacy by the peasants. This plant covers half the plain, and rises to such a height, that there is an instance, in one of the wars between France and Spain, of the Spaniards having marched through it undiscovered close up to the French entrenchments. The artichokes are given to buffaloes.

A few miles from Foggia are some faint traces of walls, said to be those of Arpi or Argyripæ, once the capital of a kingdom founded by Diomed after the siege of Troy. The

flory of this hero was universally admitted by the ancients, and adopted by Virgil :

Ille urbem Argyripam, patriæ cognomine gentis,
Victor Gargani condebat Japygis arvis *.

ÆNEID. lib. 11.

The coins † of this city, which are of Greek type, are not very rare : they usually bear the impresson of a wild boar, perhaps an allusion to that of Calydon, the place their founder came from.

* “ Being victorious, he built, in the fields of the Japygian Garganus, a city, and called it Argyripa, from the name of his native country.”

† Nummi Arpanorum.

AUR. 1. Caput Cereris. spica. ΑΡΙΑΝΩΝ. = Equus. stella et luna, ΔΑΕΟΥ.

ARG. 1. Cap. galeat. = Tres spicæ. ΑΡΙΑ.

2. Cap Cereris diota. = Equus. galea. stella ΔΑΕΟΥ.

ÆR. 1. Cap. Jovis. fulmen. ΔΑΕΟΥ. = Aper currens. hasta ΑΡΙΑΝΩΝ.

2. Equus ΑΡΙΑΝΟΥ. = Taurus ΠΟΥΛΑΙ.

3. Equus. ΑΡΙΑΝΩΝ. = Taurus ΔΑΕΟΥ.

4. Spica. = Aper.

On

On the left lies Aprocina*, a poor ruinous hamlet, that owes its origin to a frolick of the Emperor Frederick. He was passionately fond of the chace, and happened one day to kill a wild boar of extraordinary magnitude upon this very spot. He had it immediately cut up and dressed, and sat down with his company to sup upon the noble game. The flow of spirits, inspired by the success of the day, and heightened by wine and good fellowship, made him wish to perpetuate the remembrance of his convivial pleasures by erecting a palace here, which he called Apricena, from the two Latin words that signify a wild boar, and supper. Inhabitants gathered round the imperial residence, and formed a small town, which flourished and fell with the fortunes of the house of Swabia.

On our approach to the sea, we came to a more barren soil, a mere heap of pebbles, ex-

* Zannoni marks this place among the mountains of Garganus; but the Chronicle says expressly it was in the plain.

cept some small patches, where labour and perseverance have forced vines and corn to grow. A mile from the shore stood the city of Sipontum, of which, except a part of its Gothic cathedral, scarce one stone remains upon another.

Diomed is supposed by Strabo to have been the founder of this place, called by the Greeks ΣΗΠΙΟΥΝΤΟΣ, from the great quantity of cuttle-fish that are cast up on the coast. In the early ages of Christian hierarchy, a bishop was fixed in this church; but, under the Lombards, his see was united to that of Beneventum. Being again separated, Sipontum became an archiepiscopal diocese in 1094; about which time it was so ill-treated by the Barbarians, that it never recovered its splendour; but sunk into such misery, that, in 1260, it was a mere desert, from the want of inhabitants, the decay of commerce, and the insalubrity of the air. Manfred, having taken these circumstances into consideration, began, in 1261, to build a new city on the sea-shore, to which he removed the
few

few remaining Sipontines. His colony was named Manfredonia; and people were encouraged to settle in it by many essential privileges and exemptions. In order to found it under the most favourable auspices, he called together all the famous professors of astrology (a science in which both he and his father placed great confidence), and caused them to calculate the happiest hour and minute for laying the first stone. He himself drew the plans, traced the walls and streets, superintended the works, and by his presence and largesses animated the workmen to finish them in a very short space of time. The port was secured from storms by a pier, the ramparts were built of the most solid materials, and in the great tower was placed a bell of so considerable a volume as to be heard over all the plain of Capitanata, in order to alarm the country in case of an invasion. Charles of Anjou afterwards removed the bell to Bari; and offered it at the shrine of Saint Nicholas, as a thanksgiving for the recovery of one of his children.

In spite of all the precautions taken by Manfred to secure a brilliant destiny to his new city, neither his pains, nor the horoscopes of his wizards, have been able to render it opulent or powerful. At present, it scarcely musters six thousand inhabitants, though most of the corn exported from the province is shipped off here, and a direct trade carried on with Venice and Greece; for which reason there is a lazaretto established; but from some late instances we may gather, that if the kingdom of Naples has for many years past remained free from the plague, it is more owing to good luck, and the very trifling communication with Turkey, than to the vigilance or incorruptibility of the officers of this port.

In 1620, the Turks landed and pillaged Manfredonia.

All sorts of vegetables abound here, for flavour and succulency infinitely superior to those raised by continual waterings in the cineritious soil of Naples; lettuce in particular is delicious;

fish

fish plentiful and cheap; the rocky shore covered with shell-fish, alga, and balls called *pila marina*, which are nothing more than a conglomeration of the finer fibres of submarine roots detached from their plants, and rolled up by the undulating motion of the water; of these fibres a delicate paper has been obtained by an experimental philosopher, whose studies in natural history are always directed by patriotic views, and the hope of striking out discoveries of public utility.

April the 19th, we rode along the shore to the north-east, for three miles, through a well-cultivated tract of good land, till we arrived at the foot of Mount Garganus. This ridge of mountains, almost entirely composed of breccia, forms a very large promontory advancing into the Adriatic sea, and separated from the Apennines on the west by the plains of Lucera and San Severo. Most geographers make it a continuation of the great chain of mountains that runs down the middle of Italy; but

but in this point, as well as in many others concerning these provinces, I have had opportunities of discovering errors in the best maps; nor am I acquainted with one that can be implicitly relied upon with regard to the Neapolitan dominions. Few persons travel to make observations on the spot, and therefore most of them are under the necessity of adopting the mistakes of their predecessors, as they have no means of coming at better information. The four-sheet map of the kingdom of Naples, drawn at Paris by Zannoni, under the direction of the counsellor Abbate Galiani, is certainly the best and most ample of any yet published; but as it was put together from memory, combination of different observations, and old maps, it is not surprising that it should not be exempt from errors*. It is to be lamented, that, with such a

* Zannoni has lately been prevailed upon to come to Naples, and is actually employed in surveying the kingdom. We may, therefore, expect a better map of the Two Sicilies.

numerous body of engineers in times of profound peace, the Neapolitan ministry should not employ a few of them in the useful task of making topographical and marine charts of their own country and coasts. The public spirit of a Dominican friar *, who, at his own risk and expence, has caused the whole extent of coast from Reggio to Naples to be drawn and engraved, should methinks excite the emulation, and pique the pride, of those that preside over the affairs of this realm.

For more than an hour we climbed up a very rugged rocky path, through thickets of pine, juniper, cistus, lentiscus, and other strong-scented plants; at length we reached the top of the mountain that overhangs the bay of Manfredonia, and arrived at the dirty, ill-built city of Sant'Angiolo, which contains about six thousand savage-looking inhabitants. We were accommodated with lodgings at the Carmelite friars, who very politely procured us refreshments in great abund-

* F. Antonio Minasi.

ance; we found the flavour of their mutton exquisite, and were told that meat of all kinds was equally delicate in this district.

After dinner one of the friars conducted us to the sanctuary, which is a cavern in the face of the rock; a grove of aged trees overshades the approach, and on their boughs are slung flat stones drilled through, and hung up by the pilgrims, either as proofs of their having fulfilled their vow, or in consequence of some whim of devotion, as the Pagans used to suspend little masks or images on the branches of trees in honour of Bacchus,

Oscilla ex alta suspendunt mollia pinu *.

VIRG. Geor. 2.

Through a gothic porch we were led down a flight of fifty-five steps of coarse-grained marble, on which votaries have traced the outlines of their hands and feet. At the bottom, we passed into a damp, gloomy grotto, the chapel of the

* "They hang waxen masks upon the lofty pine."

Archangel

Archangel Michael: his statue is of the common soft stone of the country, and, with all the rest of the decorations, below criticism.

The history of this church is as follows: In the days of Pope Gelafius the First, about the year 491, St. Michael is said to have appeared to one Laurence in the caverns of Mount Garganus, and to have suggested to him measures for obtaining a complete victory over the enemies of his country, and delivering Sipontum, then beleaguered by the Barbarians. The vision made a great noise in the Christian world, and soon gained such credit with the pious part of it, that altars and churches were erected in numberless places in honour of this Generalissimo of the celestial host; but none was resorted to with so much fervour, none so enriched with the presents of the faithful, as the chapel consecrated upon the identical spot where the spirit was said to have stood. The riches lavished upon it by the Greeks allured the Lombards, who took the town and stripped it of all its treasures. In

1460,

1460, Ferdinand the First stormed this place (the inhabitants of which had joined his adversaries), and plundered the church of an incredible store of wealth belonging to the sanctuary, or to the rebels of the neighbourhood, who had deposited their valuable property here, as in a place of inviolable security. The King carried it off, and coined the silver into crown pieces of St. Angelo, which, on one side, bore his image, and, on the reverse, that of St. Michael, with the legend IVSTA TVENDA. Pontanus, his secretary, who must be allowed to be good authority, though, from the known character of the Prince, the fact is rather improbable, assure us, that at the peace every thing was restored to the chapel exactly in the same form and to the same amount. Since that epocha, this sanctuary has been little talked of beyond the circuit of a few miles, and only pilgrims of a mean rank now frequent Monte St. Angelo; for great and munificent votaries have for these two last centuries flocked to Loretto.

In

In the first partition of the Norman conquests, Garganus and Sipontum were assigned to Ranulph of Aversa. Joan of England, wife to William the Good, had this manor settled on her as a jointure, and afterwards it formed part of Manfred's appanage.

It was bestowed upon the famous Scanderbeg by Ferdinand the First, and at present belongs to Grimaldi Prince of Gerace.

Next morning we took a pleasant ride into the heart of the mountains, through shady dells and noble woods, which brought to our minds the venerable groves that in ancient times bent with the loud winds sweeping along the rugged sides of Garganus. There is still a respectable forest of evergreen and common oak, pitch pine, horn beam, chefnut and manna-ash; still

* ——— Aquilonibus

Querceta Gargani laborant,

Et foliis viduantur orni.——

HOR.

* The oak woods of Garganus groan beneath the northern blasts, and the ashes are stripped of their leaves by the tempest.

The

The sheltered vallies are industriously cultivated, and seem to be blest with an excellent soil, and luxuriant vegetation : the grass is short and fine.

After a delightful wandering excursion, we sat down to dinner on the moss by the side of a clear brook that tumbles down the rocks, and loses itself among the bushes *. Our repast finished

* Not many miles north of this place is Ischitella, a town that, in 1676, gave birth to Peter Giannone, the most celebrated writer of Neapolitan history. He was an advocate at Naples, and intended his work rather as a dissertation on the laws and civil transactions of his country, than as a chronicle of its wars and revolutions ; but, even according to this plan, it is imperfect in the execution, for he passes over many capital points in silence, or, at best, touches upon them in a very superficial manner ; he too frequently transcribes the words of other authors, and, from a want of recourse to original documents, decides without warrantable authority. His reputation arose from the vigorous attack he made upon ecclesiastical power ; and he is supposed to have been the first that freed the Neapolitans from the slavish terrors with which the menaces of Rome had for so many ages impressed their minds. The success
of

finished, we returned to St. Angelo, and next morning crossed the plain to Lucera, which stands on a knoll detached from the Apennine, commanding an almost boundless view of sea and land.

SECTION XIX.

THE origin and etymology of Lucera are equally matter of conjecture; its antiquity and former importance are proved by the testimony of many historians. It was a city of the

of his book roused the Pope's partisans, who soon contrived to render him an object of execration, and an exile. He dragged on a life of poverty and misery for many years, and was at last shamefully decoyed into Savoy, and thrown into prison by the King of Sardinia, who having then in view a treaty with the court of Rome, hoped to carry his point by this unjust treatment of a man, over whom he could not possibly pretend any dominion. Giannone died in 1748, after thirteen years captivity.

Daunians, and an ally of the Romans, who esteemed it a place of the utmost consequence to their views of aggrandisement. In the year of Rome 433, the consuls T. Veturius Calvinus and Spurius Posthumius, were marching from Campania to its relief, when they were circumvented and made prisoners by the Samnites in the defile of Camdium. The epithet *noble* *, bestowed upon it by Horace, can allude only to its antiquity, for Strabo says it was much decayed in the Augustan age; the only remnant of Roman building is a tower in the centre of the castle. The coins of Luceria are in most cabinets †.

* Telanæ prope nobilem.

Tonfa Luceriam.

† Nummi Lucerinorum.

BR. 1. Cap. Herculis imb. pelle leonina testum = Clava,

pharetra et arcus Lovcrr.

2. Cap. Pallad. gal. = Rota octo radiorum Lovcrr.

3. Cap. Imb. laur. 2 glob. = Cap. bov. Lovcrr.

4. Cap. bard. laur. 3 glob. = Delphin Lovcrr.

5. Cap. mul. velat. laur. 2 glob. = Concha Lovcrr.

Danvers

R

In

In 663, Lucera was sacked by Constans the Second, and lay in ruins till Frederick the Second conceived an affection for it, and erected on one of his hills a spacious Gothic fortress still existing. He soon after transported hither the Saracens of Sicily, to remove them from the dangerous neighbourhood of Africa, and break their pernicious connexions with that continent. Under the protection of the Swabian kings, their numbers increased to sixty thousand; their insolence rose in proportion to their numbers, and from Lucera, as from a den, they rushed forth into the plains, where they exercised all sorts of violence upon the inhabitants; the histories of those times abound with traits of their cruelty, perhaps a little exaggerated on account of the inviolable attachment which these Muffulmen professed and maintained towards the house of Swabia, a most odious and unpardonable crime in the eyes of the succeeding princes and their partisans. Spinelli * tells us of one Phocax,

* Matthew Spinelli, a gentleman of Giovenazzo, wrote

Phocax, a Saracen captain; who, being in love with the wife of Simon Rocca of Trani, broke into his house by night, turned him out of his bed, and took possession of his place: a complaint of this outrage was lodged before the

a journal of events that happened, in his time, under the three last Swabian and the first Angevine princes. We have his work both in Latin and Italian. Muratori and others try to persuade us, that the latter is the original; but the language is so widely different from the modern Puglian dialect, and from any idiom we can suppose in use there five hundred years ago, that it is quite absurd to think Spinelli wrote it as the language now stands: the truth is, that Spinelli wrote in the Puglian language; his book was afterwards translated into Latin, and again from Latin converted into Italian, by the editors of Gravier's *Scrittori Napoletani*. There are some anachronisms and interpolations in this very curious diary; but the former arise from the old Puglian method of beginning the year in September, and the blame of the latter may be laid upon the copyists, who had a political interest in falsifying the text. This is a short and valuable work, relating with simplicity the transactions of the times, and throwing great light upon the characters of many principal personages of that busy period.

Emperor;

Emperor; but he treated it lightly, and answered, that where there was compulsion, there could be no dishonour. If the Infidels were licentious, we learn from the same chronicles, that the Christians were not behind-hand in revenge.

After the battle of Benevento, where the Saracens signalized their fidelity, and acquitted themselves with honour of the last duty to their benefactor Manfred, they were obliged to submit to the conqueror. In 1300, Charles the Second, aware of the danger of suffering them to remain any longer in the heart of his kingdom, and zealous to re-establish the worship of Christ in a place where it had been for so many years treated with indignity, issued an edict, by which all Mahometans, resident in his dominions, were to embrace the Christian religion, or be liable to be killed with impunity wherever they should be found. Most of them fled beyond sea, and Charles restored Lucera to the Christians, built a magnificent cathedral, caused

a bishop and chapter, with ample revenues, to be appointed, and endeavoured to obliterate even the memory of all past abominations by abolishing the ancient name, in lieu of which he substituted that of Santa Maria; but it happened here, as at Manfredonia, which his father had new-named, the old denomination prevailed.

In 1590, Mark Sciarra, a captain of banditti, surprized and plundered this city. The bishop, who had taken refuge in the steeple of his cathedral, was shot at the window, as he was peeping out to watch the motions of the robbers.

The tribunal of the President of Capitanata and Molise, and an annual fair in November, are at present the chief support of the town.

From the walls, Ferentino, or Castelfiorentino, was pointed out to us about six miles to the north. It is now a ruinous hamlet, but was once an episcopal city, and remarkable for being the place where the Emperor Frederick the Second breathed his last. To form a just character of this monarch, it is necessary to steer a
middle

middle course between the invectives of ecclesiastical writers, and the eulogies of the Ghibelines. It is from a comparative review of the great events of his reign that I shall sketch the outlines of his portrait. He was a warrior of consummate prudence and undoubted courage, by the help of which he weathered the storms of half a century. In prosperity he was not elated; adversity did not depress his spirit: born at an unhappy period, when the popes were straining every sinew to attain temporal as well as spiritual despotism, when the empire was exerting its last efforts to check the growing power of Rome, and preserve a footing in Italy, Frederick was early involved in disputes with the Guelph faction, which continued with very little intermission during his whole life. In the course of these disturbances, all sentiments of respect for the triple crown, which he always found on the head of his most inveterate enemy, vanished from his breast; and, when once they disappeared, it was natural he

should confound the principles of the religion with those of its chief; from hating the pontiff, he came to despise the faith; sentiments enforced by Frederick's style of life and study: he was the most learned sovereign of the age, a poet, and author of some treatises on veterinarian subjects; the most fashionable a prince could employ his talents upon: he founded academies, protected men of letters, instituted good laws, and proved himself a strict observer of justice; but cruel and vindictive in the infliction of its penalties. He was a dupe to judiciary astrology, abandoned to sensual pleasures, and, notwithstanding all Giannone says in his defence, a latitudinarian in his religious opinions. He is said to have observed with a sneer, as he marched through the Holy Land, that, if the God of the Hebrews had ever seen the Terra di Lavoro, he would not have set such a value upon his Land of Promise.

From Lucera, we continued our journey southward to La Cerignuola, through an immense
flat,

flat, watered by the Carapelle and the Cervaro; the first of these torrents is the Daunus, from which the whole country derived its ancient name. On the north-east our horizon was bounded by the sea; on the north by Monte St. Angelo; the Appennine runs along the western side as far as the eye can discover; between it and the sea, the insulated ridge of Canosa crosses the plain, and closes the view to the south. As the weather was dry, we found the road tolerably good; but in winter it must be impassable. From the warmth I felt, I conceived an idea of the excessive power of the summer-sun in these low-lands, where neither shade nor shelter is to be found for many miles; there is then no breathing in them, through intenseness of heat and want of ventilation. Horace, who was well acquainted with all the qualities of his native country, has more than once made mention of parched-up Puglia *; and, in modern language,

* *Æstuosæ grata Calabriae armenta*——

Pauper aquæ Daunus——

Perusta solibus uxor Appuli——

Siticulosæ Apuliæ——

the

the following adage is not less expressive of the idea the Pugliese themselves have of its insufferable summer weather;

*Le pene si soffriscon dell' inferno
L'estate in Puglia, all' Aquila l'inverno †.*

We met crowds of people returning from the feast or wake of l'Incoronata: this is an image of the Madonna found in a tree, and held in great veneration. They were all gay and frolicksome, especially the women, who seemed mightily pleased with the day's diversion. At the place where this festival is kept, was formerly a hunting seat of Manfred. In 1265, being desirous of strengthening his doubtful title by popularity, he summoned a general court of his barons at Foggia, and made a grand hunting match in the forest of Incoronata, to which above one thousand five hundred persons of consideration were invited. After the chase, the spoil was divided among the company; and

* "The pains of hell are felt in Puglia during the summer, and at Aquila during the winter."

the

the hunting of that day remained long memorable in Puglia for the concourse of nobility, the great quantity of game taken, and the magnificence of the King, who suffered none to depart without some token of his generosity. Alphonsus the First enclosed eighteen miles of this country with toils, and took so many stags, that, besides what was carried away by the hunters, he sent four hundred head to be salted for the use of the garrisons of Trani and Barletta. In later times, Puglia continued to be remarkable for abundance of deer. We have the authority of Pontanus, an eye-witness, for a very extraordinary proof of their numbers: he informs us, that his master king Ferdinand having marched out of Barletta before day-break with a view of surprizing his enemies, was stopped by the appearance of a cloud of dust rising in the plain from a great crowd in motion; on the report of the advanced parties, he thought it prudent to return to his camp, lest his retreat should be cut off by that body

of

of troops, which seemed to move with prodigious rapidity. As soon as the sun rose, this formidable host was discovered to be a herd of stags. The same author tells us, that some years before, Sforza, the most experienced general of the age, had been deceived in like manner, so as to draw up his forces to receive the charge. At present, game is not wanting, though kings now seldom drive it across these plains; or, by their residence on the royal chace, contribute to its preservation and increase. It appears rather paradoxical, that however eager, expert, and indefatigable, a prince may be in the chace, yet wild beasts and game of all sorts shall flock round him and multiply near his palace; they seem fascinated and hurried by an irresistible instinct towards his royal butchery. But the concurrence is easily accounted for, when we consider the impunity with which they ravagé the hopes of the husbandman, and the undisturbed security they enjoy under the protection of the forest-laws during their seasons of pairing, producing, and nursing their progeny.

The

The Puglian sportsmen run down hares with greyhounds, and pursue the wild boar with one large lurcher and two or three mastiffs; the hunters ride with a lance and a pair of pistols.

La Cerignola is a town of twelve thousand inhabitants, situated on a rising ground, without tree or bush near it. About forty years ago an earthquake almost destroyed it, and it is not yet thoroughly rebuilt; the streets are crooked and dirty, the houses all low, as the owners dare not raise them high for fear of another shock. The eighty-first Columna Milliaria, inscribed with the name of Trajan, was the only fragment of antiquity I found here. The commodities of the place are sheep, horses, and corn; the bread is black and gritty, but well tasted. In 1363, James Arcucci, great Chamberlain of Naples, was lord of this manor: it afterwards belonged to the Palagoni, from whom Ladislaus took it, to give to the Caraccioli; Pignatelli,

telli, Count of Egmont*, resident in France, is the actual possessor, and farms it out at fifteen thousand ducats a-year (£. 2,810). In 1503, the great captain defeated the French near this town, in an attack they made upon his camp. Their general Lewis of Armagnac, Duke of Nemours, was killed in the engagement†.

* The Pignatellis give three pots, or pignatte, for their arms, and pretend they bear this coat in memory of one of their ancestors having entered Constantinople sword-in-hand, penetrated into the market-place, and brought off the three pots as a trophy. They are rich and puissant Barons, Princes of Belmonte, Strongoli, and Dukes of Monteleone, &c. Of this family was Pope Innocent the Twelfth, elected in 1691.

† He was the third son of James d'Armagnac, beheaded in 1477, by order of Lewis XI. and was the last male of his family.

SECTION XX.

April } WE set out early to examine the
22d. } fields of Cannæ, famous for the
victory obtained over the Romans by Hannibal
in the 536th year of Rome. The result of our
observations shall be given in as few words as
the desire of being intelligible will admit of.

From Cerignola to the bridge of Canosa are
reckoned six miles of open country, arable and
pasture. The Ofanto (anciently the Aufidus)
flows under this bridge; its course is serpentine,
and various in its direction, sometimes running
due east, at others, rather to the south, but in
general inclining to the north-east. There was
but little water in it, and that whitish and muddy;
but, from the wideness of its bed, the sand-
banks, and the buttresses erected to break the
force of the stream, it is plain that it still an-
swers Horace's epithets of fierce, roaring, and
violent*. It flows from two sources that em-

* Aufidus acer—longè sonantem—violens obstrepit.

HOR.

brace

brace the conical Mount Voltore, and join at the foot, being the only river *, as Polybius observes, that rising on the western side of the Apennines, empties itself into the Adriatic. This double origin is expressed by the appellation Tauriformis †, having two branches or horns at the head ‡.

Except a few scattered poplars, I saw no wood near its banks; the Roman road from Benevento, through Ascoli, appears here raised above the level of the fields, and passes south

* This expression of Polybius is not easy to be understood; for there are certainly many high mountains farther west than the head of the Ofanto; it is probable, he meant that it rose west of the middle ridge: the Sele (Silarus) rises very near it, and discharges itself into the Tirrhene sea.

† Sic Tauriformis volvitur Aufidus. Hor.

‡ Perhaps Horace intended no more by this title, than an allusion to the bulls, genii with horns, minotaurs, or animals with human face and horns, by which it was usual to represent rivers on coins; for, in reality, the Ofanto may be said to flow from fifty springs as well as two, if we take in all the brooks that fall into it.

in

in a line to Canosa. We breakfasted at an inn near the bridge, and regretted our not having followed Horace's example, in bringing a supply of bread from some other place*, for what we got here was as brown as mahogany, and so gritty that it set our teeth on edge to crunch it. The friable incompact contexture of the stone with which the millers grind their corn rather than the sand of the area where it is trodden out, can alone have perpetuated this defect in the Canusian bread for nineteen centuries. I believe their mill-stones are of the soft concreted rock, which constitutes the greatest part of the coast. The corn is separated from the ear by the trampling of a great number of mares tied in a string by their tails, and whipped round and round. This operation is performed, in the Terra di Otranto, by a pair of oxen, who drag between them a very heavy rough stone, that breaks the sheaves, and shakes out the grain.

* Panis longè pulcherrimus, ultra

Callidus ut soleat humeris portare viator,

Nam Canusi lapidosus.—

We were too much occupied with the evolutions of Hannibal, to think of any deviation from the direct route to Cannæ; so reserving Canosa, and its antiquities, for another opportunity, struck into the Barletta road at the corner of the inn, down the south side of the Ofanto. A ridge of low hills, bare of wood, and laid out in grass or corn-land, confines the river on that side for four miles, at the end of which we came to a plain bounded by the Knolls, whereon stood the city of Cannæ*. For the next mile the Ofanto flows again close under the hills, till, upon their sinking with a gentle slope into the plains of Barletta, it winds on some miles farther through a dead flat, and empties itself into the gulph of Venice. On the north side, the rising grounds are much more remote from the sea, and all between is an uninterrupted level.

* The Latins made the name of this city of the plural number, probably from its consisting of distinct parts, built on different eminences. The Greeks named it in the singular.

The

The traces of the town of Cannæ are very faint, consisting of fragments of altars, cornices, gates, walls, vaults, and underground granaries. It was destroyed the year before the battle ; but being rebuilt, became an episcopal see in the infancy of Christianity. It was again ruined in the sixth century, but seems to have subsisted in an humble state many ages later ; for we read of its contending with Barletta for the territory, which till then had been enjoyed in common by them ; and, in 1284, Charles the First issued an edict for dividing the lands, to prevent all future litigation. The prosperity of the towns along the coast, which increased in wealth and population by embarkations for the Crusadoes, and by traffick, proved the annihilation of the great inland cities ; and Cannæ was probably abandoned entirely before the end of the thirteenth century.

At the foot of the hill is a large arch over a marble trough, which receives the waters of a copious spring. Here we found a camp of

Abruzzese shepherds on the point of departing for the mountains. Rough in aspect, dialect, and dress, but civil and hospitable, they offered us milk, cheese, and cold meat. The chief of them gave us some brass coins of Zeno and Leo, found among the ruins; and seemed astonished at our offering to pay him for such baubles.

The hill above the well being rather higher than the rest, served as a reconnoitring post; where I inspected my notes, and took drawings of the country, before I entered the field of battle. My eyes now ranged at large over the vast expanse of unvariegated plains. All was silent; not a man, not an animal, appeared to enliven the scene. We stood on ruins, and over vaults; the banks of the river were desert and wild. My thoughts naturally assumed the tint of the dreary prospect, as I reflected on the fate of Rome and Carthage. Rome recovered from the blow she received in these fields; but her liberty, fame, and trophies, have long been levelled in the dust. Carthage lies in ruins
less

less discernible than these of the paltry walls of Cannæ : the very traces of them have almost vanished from the face of the earth. The daring projects, marches, and exploits, of her hero, even the victory obtained on this spot, would, like thousands of other human achievements, have been long ago buried in oblivion, had not his very enemies consigned him to immortality ; for the annals of Carthage exist no more ; one common ruin has swallowed all.

The Roman Consuls, Æmilius Paulus and Terentius Varro, being authorized by the senate to quit the defensive plan, and stake the fortunes of the republick on the chance of a battle, marched from Canusium, and encamped a few miles east, in two unequal divisions, with the Aufidus between them. In this position they meant to wait for an opportunity of engaging to advantage ; but Hannibal, whose critical situation in a desolated country, without refuge or allies, could admit of no delay, found means to inflame the vanity of Varro by some trivial

advantages in skirmishes between the light horse. The Roman, elated with this success, determined to bring matters to a speedy conclusion ; but, finding the ground on the south side too confined for the operations of so large an army, crossed the river, and, resting his right wing upon the Aufidus, drew out his forces in the plain. Hannibal, whose head-quarters were at Cannæ, no sooner perceived the enemy in motion, than he forded the water below, and marshalled his troops in a line opposite to that of his adversaries.

Polybius, who had examined the place, was a military man, and may have been acquainted with persons that were present at the battle : he was the guide I followed, as he is the original from whom subsequent historians took their accounts, and whose authority seems incontrovertible. He observes, that one of the armies faced the north, and the other the south ; by which positions the rising sun incommoded neither. The difficulty lies in deciding which way
each

each of them was turned; as the expressions of Polybius are said by some to admit of a double meaning, though I confess I think nothing can be more explicit *. Chaupy taxes Livy with having misinterpreted the passage of the Greek historian, who, according to his opinion, did not mean that the Romans stood with their faces to the noontide-sun; but only that they were drawn up to the south of the enemy †.

* Καὶ τὸς μὲν ἐκ τῆς μέγιστος χάρακος διαβιβάσαντες τὸν ποταμὸν εὐθείως παρεμβάλλει. τὸς δ' ἐκ θαλάσσης συνάπτοντες τοῖς ἐπὶ τὴν αὐτὴν εὐθείαν ἐξέλττε, λαμβάνωντες πᾶσαν τὴν ἐπιφάνειαν τὴν πρὸς μισημέριαν. Et hos quidem majorum castrorum ducens trans flumen, confestim in acie locabat. Illos verò minorum jungens cum prioribus rectâ lineâ apposuit, faciens totam apparitionem versus meridiem.—Βλεψάντες δὲ τῆς μὲν τῶν Ῥωμαίων τάξεως πρὸς μισημέριαν τῆς δὲ τῶν Καρχηδονίων πρὸς τὰς ἄρκτους ἐκαστοὶς ἀβλαβῆ συνίσταναι γίνεσθαι τὴν κατὰ τὸν ἥλιον ἀναβολήν. Spectante meridiem Romanorum acie, Carthaginiensium verò septentrionem, ambobus inoffensis contigit esse ab solis ortu.

† Livy's words are, "Romanis in meridiem, Pœnis in "septentrionem versus." Lib. xxii. 46.

He affirms, that the topography of the plain, and the course of the river, agree with this explanation; and that if the legions had faced the south, the runaways could not, after the defeat, have reached Canusium and Venusia, without passing through the whole victorious army. Salapia, Arpi, Luceria, would have been their places of refuge.

However, as I cannot but think Livy well enough versed in the Greek tongue not to mistake the meaning of an author he studied and followed so closely, I am inclined to trust to his explanation; especially as, according to my ideas, the situation of the ground is in his favour; for, exactly in that part of the plain where we know with moral certainty that the main effort of the battle lay, the Aufidus, after running due east for some time, makes a sudden turn to the south, and describes a very large semicircle. The Romans, we are to suppose, forded it at the angle or elbow, and placed their right wing on the banks; while the legions extended

tended themselves due east, till the whole line came to face the south. The Carthaginians crossed in two places within the semicircle; and were drawn out in a line, that formed the chord of which the river was the arch: the way to Canusium was therefore open for the fugitives*.

The scene of action is marked out to posterity, by the name of *Pezzodi Sangue*, "Field of Blood." The peasants shewed us some spurs and heads of lances, lately turned up by the plough; and told us, horse-loads of armour and weapons had been at different times carried off from thence.

These plains have more than once, since the Punic war, afforded room for men to accomplish their mutual destruction. Melo of Bari, after raising the standard of revolt against the Greek Emperors, and defeating their generals in several engagements, was at last routed here,

* All the maps are inaccurate in this province. D'Anville places Canusium on the northern bank of the river, and the battle several miles south of the Aufidus.

in 1019, by the Catapan Bolanus. Out of two hundred and fifty Norman adventurers, the flower of Melo's army, only ten escaped the slaughter of the day. In 1201, the archbishop of Palermo and his rebellious associates, who had taken advantage of the nonage of Frederick of Swabia, were cut to pieces at Cannæ by Walter de Brienne, sent by the Pope to defend the young King's dominions.

We returned to Cerignuola across the fields.

SECTION XXI.

NEXT day we hired a guide ; or, to speak more correctly, a very talkative bustling fellow offered to conduct us across the plains to the ruins of Salapia. Our ride was pleasant for nine miles, over a fine down, with little corn or wood, but a great deal of lentiscus. We were brought at last to the edge of a long lake, separated from the sea by a narrow neck of land,
cut

cut into several ponds for making salt, which is piled up in heaps, and carried off by boats to the ships that ride at anchor in the road. We saw some lying a mile or two off, not being able to come nearer to take in their cargoes. The swamps are overgrown with sea-purslain and dwarf-withy, with which the shepherds and fishermen make their huts and baskets. Near the lake are the ruins we had come so far out of our way to see. They consist of a square fortification of earthen ramparts, with many divisions and fosses. I should have taken it for a camp rather than a town, as there is not a stone left near it, had not the tradition of the country, and the coins that have been found here, marked with the name of Salapia *, determined

* Nummi Salapinorum.

ÆR. 1. Cap. Apollinis laur. ΣΑΛΑΠΙΝΩΝ.—Equus.
tridens. ΠΥΛΛ.

2. Cap. Jovis ΣΑΛΑΠΙΝΩΝ=Aper ΠΛΩΤΙΟΥ.

3. Cap. Jov. ΣΑΛΑΠΙΝΩΝ=Aper. tridens
ΠΥΛΛΟΥ.

4. Cap.

terminated the situation of that place. In the Punic war, Salapia was a post of consequence, which the Romans and Carthaginians were equally desirous of possessing. After the death of Marcellus, Hannibal affixed that Consul's seal to some forged letters, in hopes of gaining admittance into Salapia; but intelligence, accidentally conveyed to the garrison, defeated his purpose.

Salpi was a city and bishoprick till 1547, when the see was united to that of Trani. I believe it stood at La Trinità, some miles from the old town.

Our conductor, who during the whole journey had entertained us with wonderful stories of apparitions and miracles, at last disclosed the secret cause of his eagerness to accompany us

4. Cap. Apoll. = Equus. stella ΣΑΛΠΙΝΩΝ.

5. Equus A. ΔΑΙΟΥ = Piscis ΟΝΗΠΑ.

6. Equus ΣΑΛΠΙΝΩΝ = Piscis ΕΔΑΜΑΙΡΕ-
ΔΑΕΕΝ.

7. Cap. imb. diad. = Equus. stella. ΖΑΛΠΙΝΩΝ,

thus

thus far. This was no less than the hopes of discovering, among the many cavities in these ancient mounds, the entrance of an enchanted grotto, which contains a column of massive silver, and other precious things. It was, he assured us, the belief of the whole country, that whoever was pure enough from sin, and so favoured by Heaven, as to penetrate into this mysterious cavern, would undoubtedly become possessed of treasure sufficient to buy up all the flocks of Puglia Piana. Our honest guide was sure of obtaining the preference, because he had been a few days before to pay his devoirs to the Madonna dell' Incoronata, and had taken every step enjoined by the church for purifying his soul from all stain; however, he could not avoid being staggered, when, upon examining the whole place, not one of us could find a hollow above a foot deep; and, with a look expressive of distress and confusion, he told us, he now recollected that many good men of his acquaintance (among the rest, a capuchin friar

of

of most exemplary life) had proved unsuccessful in their attempts to come at this bewitched cave. As he seemed to think our presence adverse to the influence of his stars, we took our leave, gave him for his trouble the only money he was likely to earn that day, and pursued our journey by the sea-shore. As long as our eyes were capable of discerning objects of that size, we could perceive him running up and down very busily, hunting after his imaginary grotto.

We rode through a rich arable country to the mouth of the Ofanto, and crossed the bridge into the Terra di Bari. There is a tide very perceptible about half a mile upon the river. Three miles farther, we arrived at Barletta, through a narrow slip of an inclosed vine country, taken off the extensive corn-lands of Cannæ; the soil shallow, planted with almond-trees.

Barletta has, from without, a ruinous aspect; its walls tumbling down, and its ditches filled with rubbish. But the inside of the city is magnificently built, though thinly peopled. It
conveys

conveys the idea of a capital of some mighty state reduced to the condition of a conquered province, or depopulated by a raging pestilence. Frequent changes of masters, bad administration, and decay of commerce, blasted the prosperity of Barletta. Its streets are wide and well paved; the houses large and lofty, built with hewn stone, which, from age, has acquired a polish little inferior to that of marble. Some of these venerable mansions have the stones cut after the Tuscan manner, in angular shapes. The style of building fixes their date at the first emergence of the arts out of the chaos of barbarism, many of the houses still retaining pointed arches, short twisted columns, and other remnants of Saracenic taste; while others are decorated with pillars, entablatures, and members characteristic of the ancient Grecian architecture. This city owes its embellishments to the policy of the Aragonian kings, who resided here to secure the allegiance of the Pugliese.

In the cathedral, which is remarkable for its antique granite columns, Ferdinand the First caused

caused himself to be crowned, in hopes that the solemnity of the ceremony would inspire the people with awe and respect for his person and family.

In the market-place stands a colossal bronze statue seventeen feet three inches high, representing, as is supposed, the Emperor Heraclius, who began his reign in 610. He is standing dressed in a military habit, crowned with a diadem, a short cloak hanging from his left shoulder across his breast, and thrown over his left arm, which holds a globe; his right is raised above his head, and grasps a small cross; the drawing is rude and incorrect, the attitude awkward *. According to some historians, Heraclius

* The smoothness of the chin makes me hesitate whether to ascribe this statue to Heraclius (who is the second Eastern Emperor that appears on the coins with a beard), or to some prior monarch. Till the time of his predecessor Phocas, sovereigns shaved their chins, though their Oriental subjects cherished a length of beard. Cedrenus, indeed, assures us, that Heraclius conformed to that Imperial

clius was particularly attached to the worship of St. Michael, for whose church, on Mount Garganus, he intended this massy representation of himself, with many other valuable presents; the ship that brought them from Constantinople was cast away on the Puglian coast, and the statue thrown on the sands, where it lay many ages much damaged, and half buried. In 1491, it was dug up, and the hands and feet being restored, was placed in the great square of Barletta. Pontanus thinks this colossus stood originally at the head of the mole, which Heraclius had carried out into the sea for the convenience of navigators, and that the extended position of the hand denotes the protection he afforded to commerce. It long passed for the figure of Rachis, King of Lombardy, who, in 749, re-
 perial custom; but on his medals he is drawn with a square beard, not unlike that of our Henry the Eighth. If this image be his, I suspect it was not imported from Greece, but cast in Italy, and consequently dressed after the Roman fashion.

signed his crown, and took the habit of a Benedictine monk at Monte Casino.

The citadel is spacious, and commands the port, which is at present a mere labyrinth, consisting of several irregular piers, where ships are moored; but without any shelter from the north wind, which sweeps the whole basin. The exports here are salt, corn, almonds, and liquorice, a root that grows spontaneously in the swamps. This air is accounted unwholesome during the hot months.

Barletta is said, by Baccius, to have been at first no more than a tower, or drinking-house, on the road to Cannæ, which had for its sign a barrel, *barilletta*; when the cities of Cannæ and Canosa fell to decay, and the advantages of trade drew people to the coast, a numerous colony insensibly gathered round this tower, and in 484 Pope Gelasius came down from Garganus to consecrate a church for the settlers, which, in time, became the cathedral of the united sees of Nazareth, Cannæ, and Monteverde.

verde. The Emperor Frederick added greatly to Barletta, and is by some called its founder. Other authors assign higher antiquity to the place, and suppose it to be the Barduli of the Itineraries. In 1291, the Barlettans rebelled against the house of Swabia, and set up the Papal standard, for which they were severely punished. Manfred, who had a great partiality for this part of his dominions, held a general parliament here, in which he put in practice every endearing art, likely to win the hearts, and fix the wavering affections, of his vassals. In the fifteenth century, Barletta was esteemed one of the four strongest fortresses in Italy*. It was mortgaged to the Venetians by Ferdinand the Second, and retaken from them by Gonsalvo de Cordova, who here collected his forces, and made his first stand against the French, in 1503.

* The other three were, Fabriano in the Marca, Prato in Tuscany, and Crema in Lombardy.

SECTION XXII.

ON leaving Barletta, we saw before us, on a peninsula, the city of Trani, at the distance of six miles; the road to it is one of the roughest ever trodden by man or beast; it runs partly along the rocks impending over the beach, and partly in narrow lanes, through vineyards, between dry stone walls. In every inclosure is one, and often two hovels, built in a spiral form, with the stones picked off the land after digging. These conical towers serve as watch-houses for the persons that attend before vintage, to prevent the depredations of quadruped and biped pilferers; when old and overgrown with climbing weeds and fig-trees, they become very romantic objects, and appear like so many ancient mausolea. The shape of these piles of rude stone, covered with moss and brambles, has deceived a writer of travels into
a belief

a belief of their being Roman tombs; but I am surprised the prodigious multitude of them did not raise suspicion; for if they were really depositories of the dead, the ashes of the whole Roman people would scarcely have sufficed to fill the columbaria of the single province of Bari.

As soon as we arrived at Trani, we waited upon the President, with a letter from the Secretary of State, and obtained from him an order for all convents, in his district, to receive us civilly, and afford us lodging: we were provided with similar recommendations for every province, and except letters for private families, there is no better method to be pursued in a tour through a country so ill-provided with inns. Our evening was spent with the Archbishop, a worthy conversable prelate. He told us, he had taken great pains to introduce a taste for study and literature into his diocese, but hitherto without success, as the Tranians were a very merry race, *gente molto allegra*, but unfortunately born with an unconquerable antipathy

to application. The collegians, though under his immediate inspection, were above his hand; and often, when he thought the whole seminary buried in silence, wrapped up in studious contemplation, or deep in theological lucubrations, he has been surprised, on entering the quadrangle, to find all ring again with gigs and tarantellas. We were well satisfied that he spoke without exaggeration; for never did I hear such incessant chattering, and so stunning a din, as was kept up the whole day under our windows. It is a rule established by the custom of time immemorial, that no work shall be done in Trani after dinner; the whole afternoon is to be spent in dozing, chatting, or sauntering; we could not prevail upon the blacksmith to shoe one of our horses in the evening.

The exportation of corn is considerable, but little other business is stirring; and I am afraid industry has taken a long farewell of most of the cities on this coast. The great number of towns along the Adriatic, jealous of each other,
shackled

shackled with honourable but baneful privileges, and averse to all friendly intercourse and coalition of interests, is an almost insurmountable bar to improvement; a province so blessed with articles of prime necessity might speedily rise to opulence, were trade properly understood and encouraged.

The bread of this place is white, light, and spongy, baked after the French manner, which is contrary to that of the Capitanata, where the bakers are ignorant of the very rudiments of their trade, and knead and bake their dough in such an imperfect manner, that a stranger is almost choaked in attempting to swallow it.

Vegetables are here so exquisitely flavoured, that, for the first time of my life, I ate raw unseasonable lettuces with relish: pulse of all kinds are large and pulpy; the market people sell pease and beans by weight, and make use of pebbles in lieu of weights; a rude mode of dealing, which must expose the vender to great temptation of imposing upon his chapmen, espe-

cially as the stones, being of a soft kind, must in time lose part of their heaviness by frequent rubbing.

The wine of the district south of the Ofanto is sweet, strong, and tawny. It is mixed with *mosto cotto*; that is, a certain proportion of rich wine boiled down to a jelly. This is, no doubt, a trick of the vintner's art, handed down from the ancients, who treated their most precious wines in a similar manner, as we learn from many passages in the classics. The grapes have a fine flavour, and might produce excellent liquor; but from inveterate and rooted ignorance the proprietor brews with them a muddy unpalatable mixture, that will scarcely keep a twelve-month without turning to vinegar.

Trani is tolerably well built of stone, upon uneven ground. The harbour is incircled by the town, and has scarcely depth of water enough to set a boat afloat; the corn ships are obliged to come to an anchor a couple of miles off, and take in their lading from lighters. The city
has

has been at great expence in building a quay, on a peninsula that advances so far as to embrace the haven; but this slip of land, instead of being occupied by the warehouses and stores of merchants, is entirely taken up by two or three over-grown monasteries. We need look for no other criterion of the state of commerce at Trani.

The cathedral stands on the opposite side of the harbour, and was erected six centuries ago, in a very mean taste; the ornaments preposterous, and, except a few pieces of foliage, clumsily designed and executed; the pillars short and thick, resembling those of our oldest English churches, which were built after the Saxon manner, and before the introduction of that lighter sort of architecture, which we distinguish by the name of Gothic, and admire in the cathedrals of York, Lincoln, Westminster, &c. The columns of the nave are solid blocks of granite, the dislocated spoils of some ancient edifice. Philip, Prince of Morea, second son of Charles the First, reposes in a marble coffin, without

without inscription or ornament, except the cross of Jerusalem. Innocent the Third made Trani an archbishoprick.

West of the cathedral is the castle, consisting of some gloomy towers, built by Frederick of Swabia, who, in revenge for the depredations committed on his coasts by the Venetians, hanged Peter Tiepolo, the Doge's son, on the Keep, in sight of the Venetian gallies that were then cruising off the port.

The monastery of St. Clare is a sumptuous inclosure; its great gate is built in that style of architecture which the Puglians learnt from the Saracens during their long residence in the country. Those Africans, however ferocious they might be in war, were certainly well-skilled in the arts of peace, and excelled in many branches of science, which Christians of those dark ages despised, or despaired of attaining.

In the first division of the conquests made by the Norman adventurers, and before any chieftain had acquired such a superiority over the rest

as to destroy the original equality of their aristocratical confederacy, Trani was assigned to one Peter, from whom the family of Capece deduces its pedigree, but, I think, on questionable grounds*.

Under

* Francis Capecelatro, in his *Origin of Nobility*, insists upon it, that Peter bore the name of Capece by inheritance, and was of the blood of the Gothic princes. More moderate genealogists believe the Capeci to be Normans by extraction, and to have settled at Sorrento, where they recommended themselves to notice by their skill as naval officers; they frequently are called Cacapece in old chronicles, a name that an ingenious friend of mine thinks the original one, and allusive of their profession. They were raised early to an exalted rank in the state, and honoured with the confidence of many sovereigns. Marino Capece superintended the building of Manfredonia. Conrad signified himself in the Swabian cause, which his family had always supported, and probably owed its fortunes to: after the battle of Benevento, he cut his way through the thickest squadrons of the enemy, headed a party in Sicily in favour of Conradine, and maintained to the last an unshaken fidelity to his old masters. This conduct rendered
the

Under the walls of Trani was fought, in 1502, a trial of skill between eleven Spaniards and as many Frenchmen, in support of the honour of their respective nations; the Venetians sat as umpires. The combatants fought till

the Capeci extremely odious to the conqueror, who deprived many individuals of their lives, and many of their estates; he obliged the survivors to tack ignominious additions to their surname, such as Latro, Galeota, Piscicelli, Zurolo, Minutolo, Tomacelli, &c. which, in time, became honourable distinctions of the several branches of this numerous sept. In Naples, a family that spreads itself out into many branches, acquires thereby an increase of dignity and influence: in some countries, such a division contributes more to the destruction than the prosperity of a house. That of Capece was at one period divided into sixteen branches, but half of them are now extinct. It gave to the chair of St. Peter, one pope, viz. Boniface the Ninth, elected in 1389, extolled for his chastity, and blamed for his avarice and nepotism. Of this race was James Galeota, who, in 1488, commanded the French army, and defeated the Dukes of Brittany and Orleans at the battle of St. Aubin du Cormier. One of its most respectable present members is the learned and amiable archbishop of Taranto.

there

there remained only six Spanish and four French knights: the latter then alighted, and defended themselves behind their horses as behind a rampart, till night put an end to the contest.

SECTION XXIII.

BISCEGLIA is four miles distant from Trani. The * road is very rugged, and being worn with wheels, and the course of rain-water, is cracked into figures not unlike an ancient pavement; and such it has been deemed by some writers, but I could not discover any traces of a Roman way: the great Brundusian road never came near the coast till it reached Bari.

* 1789. "The road from Barletta to Bisceglia has been made since you were in the country, and is now excellent.—When it shall be continued, you may imagine how delightful it will be to travel along it in sight of the Adriatic, and in the midst of rich gardens and olive-groves."

Extract of a letter from Sir W. Hamilton.

The

The face of this country is delightful, and much more diversified than the neighbourhood of the Ofanto. We rode under the shade of fruit-trees, of a size and vigour of growth unknown in more northern latitudes. The olives of the province are not inferior in bulk to the largest Seville ones.

Bisceglia is a pretty town, situated in the midst of orchards and villas. Its walls are of stone, and very lofty. I was unsuccessful in my researches after the antique buildings mentioned in an account of this place. I met with no remains of baths or cellars, but hundreds of subterraneous reservoirs and cisterns, of all sizes and shapes, cut into steps in the solid rock, and arched over with stones and stucco, in order to collect and preserve the rain-water, which is the only sort they have to drink in a district so totally destitute of springs.

This little city was granted by Charles the First to the Bruneforts; but its inhabitants seem to have had a great dislike to baronial government,

ment, by the tender they made to the Emperor Charles the Fifth, of fourteen thousand golden ducats, a large sum in those days, provided he would render them for ever a royal corporation, subject only to the jurisdiction of the King's officers. In the wars between Durazzo and Anjou, the Bisceglians, being dissatisfied with the behaviour of King Charles's garrison, sent to offer the keys of their town to his rival. The Angevines marched from Bari; but, having met with an unexpected resistance at Bisceglia, were obliged to make their entry by main force. This appearance of double dealing in the citizens exasperated the soldiers, and gave them a plea for plundering it as a place taken by assault. They would have laid it waste, had not Lewis of Anjou, their chief, curbed their fury by extraordinary activity and dint of authority. These generous exertions cost him his life, for they threw him into a fever, of which he died. He was a younger son of John, King of France, and, during the minority of Charles the Sixth,

Regent

Regent of that kingdom; a trust which he did not discharge to the satisfaction of the nation; his proceedings were arbitrary, and the extortions he committed, or suffered to pass unpunished, brought great odium upon him. It was the desire of accumulating funds for his Neapolitan expedition, and not innate avarice, that put him upon rapacious measures; for he possessed a liberal and munificent spirit, which attached to his cause the partizans he had gained by his eloquence and winning behaviour. His wit was lively, and his head clear for business; but he was not endowed with military talents, and by no means a match for his antagonist Charles the Third, one of the best generals of the age. Joan the First adopted Lewis, in opposition to Durazzo; but he came too late to save her.

The clergy offer to the devotion of the Bisciglians the liquefied blood of St. Pantaleon, and two other martyrs; a miracle performed annually at Naples, and in several other places
of

of the kingdom. This species of prodigy was known to the Greeks of the Lower Empire, who introduced many opinions and religious practices into this part of their dominions. But miraculous liquefactions are of older standing in Puglia *.

Three miles more of the same wretched road, through olive-woods and patches of vineyards, brought us to Molfetta. I did not enter the walls, but passed on through a well-built suburb. The outward appearance of the town is handsome; but the peep I had through the gate shewed me nothing but lofty old-fashioned houses, and narrow, dirty streets. It is said to contain twelve thousand inhabitants; and to

* — Dein Gnatia —

— dedit risusque jocosque,

Dum flammis sine thura liquefcere limine sacro

Perfuadere cupit. — HOR. Sat. 5. Lib. 1.

“ Next, Gnatia afforded subject for laughter, while she
“ endeavoured to persuade us, that incense would melt on
“ the threshold of her temple, without the help of fire.”

VOL. I.

U

carry

carry on some trade in almonds and oil. The lordship belongs to the Spinolas.

In or near all these towns are convents of a stupendous bulk. At Giovenazzo is a most enormous fabrick, belonging to the Dominicans; an order of friars that enjoys very large possessions in this realm, and in almost every city has a monastery, generally the best in the place. St. Thomas of Aquino, one of the great luminaries of the Latin Church, and a capital saint of the Dominican Order, was a native of this kingdom; consequently a very natural impulse of national pride and affection led his countrymen to revere his memory, care for his brethren, and help them to increase in wealth and importance.

Giovenazzo is an ugly, desolate city, on a rock hanging over the sea, containing about two thousand souls. It is now vested in the crown, after having been a barony of the Giudici.

The only singular anecdote I meet with in history concerning Giovenazzo, is the devastation

tion of its territory in 1437 by the Pope's general, Vitelleschi, Patriarch of Alexandria, who invaded Puglia in support of the Angevine cause. His hatred to the Aragonese was most virulent; and he seemed afraid lest his troops should be deterred from doing mischief, by motives of compassion or Christian charity. To quiet their scruples, and rouse their destructive zeal, he published an indulgence of an hundred days for every olive-tree any of his soldiers should cut down. Strange perversion of the mild religion of Christ, who forbade his disciples to avenge his wrongs, and prayed for his enemies while tormented by their malice! Our astonishment ought to be great, not that so many nations have seceded from the communion of the Pope, but rather that so many have remained faithful to him, amidst such horrid abuses committed by his ministers, in direct contradiction to the doctrine they were appointed to teach*.

Our

* To efface the bad impressions of this contradictory conduct, the Romans are fond of citing a tale from Boc-

Our afternoon's ride of twelve miles was cold and damp, the wind blowing fresh from the sea, and the way lying upon a bare, rugged rock, high above the water, exposed to every blast. The country flat, and divided by stone-walls. The soil is naturally poor, and would scarcely afford nourishment for a blade of grass, had not the husbandmen found means to improve

caccio.—A Jew goes from Paris to Rome, in order to acquire a just idea of the Christian religion, as at the fountain-head. There he beholds simony, intrigue, and abominations of all sorts; and, after gratifying his curiosity in every particular, returns to France, where he gives a detail of his observations to a friend, by whom he had been long solicited to abjure Judaism. From such a recital, the Christian expected nothing but an obstinate perseverance in the old worship; and was struck with amazement, when the Jew acquainted him with his resolution of requesting baptism upon the following grounds of conviction: That he had seen at Rome every body, from the pope down to the beggar, using all their endeavours to subvert the Christian faith, which nevertheless daily took deeper and firmer root, and must therefore be of divine institution.

and

and fertilize it by copious manurings of rotted sea-weed, of which there is an ample provision in every cove. The active disposition of the cultivators has converted their stubborn unfavourable land into the best-tilled district in the province, and rendered its appearance luxuriantly rich and chearful. It yields in abundance cotton, wine, oil, almonds, cummin, and fruits of numberless kinds and delicious flavour. The most esteemed are the grape, fig, pear, and pomegranate; want of skill in the gardeners prevents the other sorts from attaining that perfection they might be brought to. It has very little silk, and boasts of no mines; but there are salt-ponds, of great profit to the crown, the sole proprietor of all salt, fossile or factitious. A valuable breed of horses may be reckoned among its staple commodities; but how inferior in numbers and renown to the studs of ancient Japygia! I do not believe the whole kingdom now breeds as many horses as were to be found in this single province at the time it offered to

supply Rome with an auxiliary force of fifty thousand foot and sixteen thousand horse. What swarms of men, what droves of animals, then subsisted in a tract of land, where at this day a mere handful of human creatures, and a few beasts, find it difficult to subsist, and almost every year are indebted to other countries for supplies of corn!

Bari makes a great figure at a distance. We lodged at the Dominican convent, where the good hospitable Prior gave us his own cell, as the repairs then in hand rendered the apartment for strangers absolutely uninhabitable. A plentiful fish-supper was provided for us by our kind host, anxious to support the reputation of Bari in that article. The abundance and delicacy of the fish vouch for Horace's knowledge of the peculiar excellencies of his own country *.

* — Piscoli moenia Bari.

SECTION



H. Sw. del.

J. Mayall sculp.

NORTH View of the CITY of BARI.

~ Cathedral. ~ St. Nicholas. ~ Castle. ~ Dominicans.

SECTION XXIV.

BARI is defended by double walls and an old castle; it occupies a rocky peninsula of a triangular form, about a mile in circumference. The houses, which are in general mean, and without any pretensions to ornamental architecture, are built upon a soil raised by the ruins of former edifices near thirty feet above the level of the sea. Pieces of old pavement have been frequently discovered by digging several feet below the present streets, which are uneven, narrow, crooked, and dirty. The new rampart above the harbour is the only clean walk, and few are more pleasant; at every turn you catch a different view of the sea and coast, stretching from the mountains of Garganus to the hills of Ostuni. The towns that rise along this line in various degrees of shade have a beautiful effect; and nothing can be more

picturesque than the fleets of fishing-boats steering for their respective harbours on the approach of night. On shore, the full bloom of Spring, and lively foliage, contrasted with innumerable white cottages, form an enchanting rural scene.

There is some reason to suppose that ancient Barium extended farther into the country than the present city. Isabella of Aragon, duchess dowager of Milan, began to cut a canal through the Isthmus, about half a mile from the gates: bridges were to correspond with the principal streets, and the intermediate space to be built upon. But this grand work, which would have redounded to her immortal honour, and the commercial prosperity of Bari, was destroyed by a sudden inundation in a rainy season; and never afterwards attempted to be resumed.

The cathedral has no external beauties; its inside has lately been modernized, stuccoed, and painted, at the expence of the archbishop, whose revenues do not exceed six thousand
ducats

ducats (£. 1,125). Under the choir is a chapel, supported upon short columns, which give it a great resemblance to the inside of the mosque at Cordova. It is incrustated with party coloured marbles, after a barbarous, fantastic design; and contains the bones of St. Sabinus, a patron of the town. The steeple is remarkable for being one of the highest in the kingdom*: a second was begun in 1617; but the apprehension of earthquakes stopped the work. The Barian writers pretend that the Norman kings, and some of their successors, were crowned in this church with an iron diadem, which is kept among its treasures; but Giannone and others treat the matter as a mere fable.

The royal Priory of St. Nicholas is an ugly Gothic edifice, erected by Archbishop Elias and King Roger. It is a celebrated sanctuary, whither thousands of pilgrims resort, to offer up their vows at the shrine of this Bishop of Myra, the patron of orphans. His relicks are said to

* It is about two hundred and sixty-three feet high.

have

have been brought from Lycia in 1087 by some merchants; though the legend assures us they floated hither of their own accord. The lands and immunities with which it was endowed by the Norman princes, were very considerable; and one of its earliest privileges was an exemption from every jurisdiction except the Papal. Charles the First held the Saint in great veneration, and gave many solid proofs of his munificent devotion. But Charles the second put the finishing hand to its establishment; for, imagining that he owed his deliverance from imprisonment and death to the intercession of his special protector, St. Nicholas, he thought himself bound in gratitude to confer upon his church an increase of wealth and splendour. Accordingly he obtained from the Pope many honourable distinctions; augmented and settled its possessions; and instituted for himself, and the succeeding Kings of Naples, the office of Treasurer, in which he was installed with great solemnity. The church is rich in marble columns,
and

and ornaments aukwardly arranged. Behind the high altar is a very sumptuous monument, erected by Anne Jagellon, wife of Stephen Battori, King of Poland, to the memory of her mother Bona, who was daughter and heiress of John Galeas, Duke of Milan, by Isabella of Aragon, widow of Sigismund the First, King of Poland, and Dutcheß of Bari by investiture. In 1556, Queen Bona came with a splendid retinue to reside at Bari, where she died the following year. Her effigy is placed on its knees, and at the corners stand four statues, representing Poland, Lithuania, St. Stanislaus, and St. Nicholas. Here also is a dirty, dark, subterraneous chapel, the original place of worship, over which King Roger raised the present fabrick. Underneath its altar is a hole, through which devout and curious persons thrust their heads, to behold a bone or two swimming below in water: this liquid is drawn up by the priests in a silver bucket, and distributed, under the name of Manna, as an infallible cure for fore eyes

eyes and disordered stomachs. The chaplains were so busied in their respective functions, that I could not obtain a sight of this tomb, and must therefore content myself with the accounts I received from others. In this lower chapel Urban the Second assembled a general council of the Latin Church, which in 1097 decided in favour of the procession of the Holy Ghost, and anathematized the Greek doctrine.

The castle is spacious and gloomy, inhabited by the Governor of the town, and a small garrison. Bona repaired it in 1554, for the reception of her court.

Religious Orders abound in Bari; and some of them have rich, gaudy churches, with good paintings. The best are, a *Noli me tangere*, by Pietro da Cortona, at Santa Chiara; a Descent of the Cross, by Carlo Cignani; and an Invention of it, by Paul Veronese, at the Capuchins: in the Cathedral, some large pieces by Luca Giordano and his scholars. The convent of the Jesuits

Jesuits is converted into a college for young gentlemen*.

I saw no monuments of antiquity, except a milliary column, some inscriptions, and a lion, of barbarous sculpture, placed in the great square, by the citizens of Bari, in 1002, as an offering of thanks to the republick of Venice, and its Doge, Peter Vescolo, who came with a powerful fleet, and obliged the Saracens to raise the siege of this city.

Not far from the town, at a place said to have been the general cemetery of Ancient Barium, chance has brought to light great quantities of funeral pots, known among the virtuosi by the name of Etruscan vases; though, for one that was moulded in Tuscany, thousands were baked in Campania, where the same sort of ware was in constant use. They are greatly admired for the lightness of the clay, the elegance of their forms, and the profound learning supposed to

* There are twelve convents for men, five for women, and three hospitals.

lie hidden beneath the ambiguous characters and various groups painted upon them in tawny, yellow colours on a dark ground. These figures, and the shape of the urns, have been of great service in improving the taste, and multiplying the ideas, of our artists and porcelain manufacturers; but have contributed little to the advancement of historical or antiquarian knowledge, as scarcely a single group has been explained to the universal satisfaction of the learned. The great vogue these vessels have had among the rich and curious collectors of the age, has set the ingenious Italians to work in counterfeiting them; and it is now no unusual thing for a young dilettante to have a modern jar, with proper cracks and dirt, palmed upon him for a real antique. A Barian citizen, lately possessed of a noted assortment of these curiosities, told me that the most beautiful of them had been found in a large sepulchre, about a yard below the surface of the earth; it contained a skeleton inclosed within a stone coffin, round
which

which these vases were placed empty. Encouraged by this discovery, he dug in several other vineyards, and met with similar vaults, but no urns of a fine grain or finished workmanship.

At the southern corner of the peninsula, is a kind of harbour, affording tolerable shelter to vessels of small burden. As Bari had formerly gallies of its own, I presume it had a safer place for them to ride in. Its traffick was once very flourishing, being a mart for the Dalmatians and Levantines; but the exorbitant duties, and ill-judged restrictions, with which the commerce of this kingdom is hampered, have long ago driven merchants to other markets: however, the Barians, whose number amounts to sixteen thousand seven hundred, are an active pains-taking race, and carry on no despicable trade in oil and almonds; besides these two capital objects, they send a considerable quantity of potash, soap, aniseed, and even garlick, to the Venetian islands.

which these notes were placed upon. The
 aged by this discovery, the day in several other
 attempts, and met with similar results, but no
 trace of a fragment of English was obtained.

In the further course of the journey, a
 kind of labour, resembling tobacco, was found to
 yield of small quantity. As soon as the
 village of his own people was reached, a place
 for some tobacco, his friends were very
 anxious, being a man for the tobacco, and in
 the evening, for the experiment, and in



judged to be the foundation of
 the village in the morning, and given
 tobacco to him, however, the B.
 king, whose number appears in the
 last of the number, is an officer, and
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at the end of the journey, the king, whose
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 is an officer, and the king, whose number
 appears in the last of the number, is an officer.

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